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CSCE Summit Delegation Issues Statement

AU2211133790 Tirana ATA in English 0900 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Tirana, November 21 (ATA)—Follows the statement of the Albanian delegation at the CSCE summit in Paris:

Although Albania takes part in summit of the Conference on the Security and Cooperation in Europe as observer, it assesses its importance being confident that this summit will give a fresh impulse to the cooperation and understanding and will contribute to ensure a more reliable and peaceful future on our continent.

Our view has been and is that security is real when it is general and for all, it becomes stable when it is not based only on the political-military aspect but also on the socioeconomic development, on narrowing the gap of economic inequality.

Everything that is taking place on our continent affects and concerns the Albanian people just as all the other peoples of Europe. That is why Albania has hailed the positive European processes of the CSCE, it is engaged in implementing the principles of its documents and has also aired its desire and will to fully join it.

Bearing in mind all these, it is incomprehensible that some state does not grant the consensus for Albania's full participation in the Paris summit. According to the Albanian delegation, its privation from the full participation in this summit has not to do with the CSCE, with its spirit and content. This stand is a result of the reminiscence of the past, from which Europe profited nothing good.

Historically Albania has never detached its destiny from that of the other peoples of the continent. It has contributed and resolutely contributes to the peace and security in the regions of the Balkans, the Mediterranean and Europe. It has never threatened and done harm to anyone.

Albania is an active participant in the process of the Balkan cooperation, which has also become an integral part of the European processes. Precisely for this the Balkan countries, in their message to this meeting, hailed Albania's request for full participation in the CSCE summit in Paris and voiced their desire that this request be fulfilled.

As until now, Albania will continue to march in the spirit of European developments and will render its modest contribution to the process of the CSCE. The Albanian delegation reiterates that it considers the Paris summit of special importance for the future of Europe.

Foreign Minister Returns From Paris

AU2311151490 Tirana ATA in English 1130 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Tirana, 23 November (ATA)—The Albanian Government delegation headed by Reis Malile, minister of foreign affairs, returned to Albania on 22 November after attending in the capacity of observer the CSCE summit held in Paris from 19-21 November.

Press Reaction to Paris CSCE Summit Noted

AU2211140090 Tirana ATA in English 0912 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Tirana, November 22 (ATA)—In an article published in the newspaper "ZERI I POPULLIT" about the CSCE Paris summit, the commentator Sokol Gjoka says among others that the creation of a demilitarization situation in Europe, the renunciation from the fervent and destructive armament's race as well as the withdrawal from the policies of rivalry, are a promising testimony to the end of "the cold war" on our continent, as stressed in the Paris charter "For a New Europe."

The Paris summit underlined that it opens a new page to its history, "ZERI I POPULLIT" points out. This new page has to do with the fact that all the European countries, those of West or East, North or South, big or small, are having their say in the arena of the European political dialogue.

The enhancement of the political personality and national identity, the avoidance of the spirit of dictate in the international and inter-European relations, has to do with that important process of the democratization of the international relations, of equality and cooperation without any aim of superiority or inferiority being noticed in Europe. All these make up that important base for the strengthening in the future of the intercontinental cooperation, which affects and depends on the security processes.

"ZERI I POPULLIT" says that Albania participated in the Paris summit as an observer. Its desire was to come to this meeting with full and equal rights as all the other European countries. Its participation under these conditions was not an unrealisable desire. Albania has voiced her wish to take part in the CSCE with full rights, bearing in mind the fact that it is a part of Europe and renders her contribution to this continent as well as the other fact that she has shared her destiny always with that of the other peoples of our continent.

The Balkan countries too, which have closely felt the commitment of our country in the processes of cooperation and understanding gave their approval for Albania's participation with all the rights in the CSCE, the paper continues. And the most important thing is that now Albania is marching on the road of the complete democratization of the country's life. At present this democratization is now noticed in the political, economic, social aspect, the human rights, etc. But it is not

normal that this process is not finding a favourable circumstances in some European circles, which as Comrade Ramiz Alia said at the 12th plenum of the party CC [Central Committee], "...are using their consensus regarding Albania as a pressure to dictate different political recipes and conditions on our country. Naturally, we have made and will do nothing under the dictate of someone. Everybody should have it clear that the Albanian people have never put into auction the freedom, independence and national sovereignty."

Nevertheless, "ZERI I POPULLIT" stresses in conclusion, like so far, Albania will continue to march on in the spirit of European developments and will render its modest contribution to the whole process of the CSCE. This is a message for the course of the new developments in the Europe of tomorrow.

Turkish Health Minister Sivgin on Official Visit

Arrives 21 Nov

AU2211130690 Tirana ATA in English 0902 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Tirana, November 21 (ATA)—Upon the invitation of the minister of health, Ahmet Kamberi, the minister of health of the Republic of Turkey, Halil Sivgin, arrived on an official and friendly visit to our country on November 21.

At the airport, he and the other members of the delegation were received by the minister of health, Ahmet Kamberi, head of department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bashkim Dino, functionaries of the Ministry of Health, and others.

Present was also the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey to the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania, Teoman Surenkok.

On the same day, talks were conducted between the delegations of the Ministries of Health of Albania and Turkey, regarding the exchanges and further development of the relations in the field of health between the two countries. In the framework of the implementation of the existing health agreement, both delegations stressed the desire to promote the concrete cooperation in certain branches of health, among the health institutions of both countries, as well as for pharmaceutical, medical products, etc.

Received by Carcani

TA2211192390 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1800 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Health Minister Halil Sivgin, who is continuing his contacts in Tirana, has been received by Adil Carcani, the chairman of the Albanian Council of Ministers. At the meeting, Carcani said that there are no problems in bilateral relations and that the relations are constantly improving. Noting that an exchange of visits is very important from the viewpoint of strengthening the dialogue between the two countries, Carcani said that he is waiting for President Turgut Ozal and Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut to visit Albania. Sivgin said that Ozal and Akbulut attach great importance to developing relations with Albania. He relayed the messages from Ozal and Akbulut to the Albanian prime minister.

Sivgin also met with Farudin Hoxha, the Albanian state minister in charge of foreign economic relations. At the meeting, Sivgin said that Turkey is ready to help Albania in all fields, especially in the field of health. He added that Turkey is ready to invest in Albania. In turn, Farudin Hoxha said that Albania wants close cooperation with Turkey in all fields.

Confers With Health Minister Kamberi

AU2311140290 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 2100 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] This morning, Comrade Adil Carcani, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, received Turkish Minister of Health Halil Sivgin, and had a warm and friendly talk with him.

The reception was attended by Minister of Health Ahmet Kamberi and Sokrat Plaka, deputy minister of foreign affairs. Teoman Surenkok, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey in Tirana, was also present.

During the meeting, Comrade Adil Carcani pointed out his satisfaction concerning the state of relations between Turkey and Albania, and dwelt on the prospects for the further development of fraternal relations and for further cooperation between Albania and Turkey in all fields. The talks between the ministers of health of both countries, he stated, will further develop and give concrete form to cooperation in the fields of health and pharmaceutics. Further on, Comrade Adil Carcani stressed the possibilities of further development in the fields of [word indistinct], culture, technology, culture, and so forth. [passage indistinct]. He also informed the Turkish minister about developments in the field of the further democratization of every aspect of our country's life. [passage indistinct]. Comrade Adil Carcani spoke also about the foreign policy of friendship, peace, and cooperation pursued by the Albanian Government, dwelling on the relations with the neighboring countries. Turkey and Albania, he stressed, made a valuable contribution to the successful conclusion of the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Balkan countries, which was held last month in Tirana. Our two countries, he said, represent an important factor in the progress of Balkan cooperation and are working for objectives intended to secure understanding, peace, and stability in our region, as an integral part of the process of European security and cooperation.

Prime Minister Adil Carcani asked Turkish minister Halil Sivgin, to convey his warmest greetings and best sentiments to Turkish Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut.

Halil Sivgin, the Turkish minister, conveyed to Comrade Adil Carcani greetings on behalf of Turkish Prime Minister Yildrim Akbulut, and asked him to convey to Comrade Ramiz Alia, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, greetings from the Turkish president, Turgut Ozal. He thanked Comrade Adil Carcani for the warm reception and cordial talks, stating that they reflected the traditional links and friendly cooperation between Turkey and Albania. He also expressed his appreciation for Albania's achievements in the field of health, and went on to say that all the conditions exist to further promote bilateral cooperation. He also greeted the measures recently adopted in our country for Albania's democratization and further progress in the political, economic, cultural, and social fields. He said that the high level meetings that are to take place soon will make a further contribution toward strengthening the relations between Turkey and Albania in the interest of our two peoples.

Departs 23 Nov

AU2311202190 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Halil Sivgin, minister of health of the Republic of Turkey, left our country today, following his official and friendly visit. He was bid farewell at Rinas Airport by Minister of Health Ahmet Kamberi and Bashkim Dino, chief of directorate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Teoman Surenkok, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey in Tirana, was also present.

Vietnamese Trade Union Delegation Arrives 23 Nov

AU2511150090 Tirana ATA in English 0915 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Tirana, November 24 (ATA)—At the invitation of the General Council of the TUA [Trade Unions of Albania], a delegation of the Federation of the Trade Unions of Vietnam led by the president of this federation, Nguyen Van Tu, arrived on a friendly visit to our country.

The delegation was welcomed at the airport by the president of the General Council of the TUA, Sotir Kocollari, and other comrades.

Present was also the ambassador extraordinry and plenipotentiary of the SR [Socialist Republic] of Vietnam in the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania, Nguyen Chi Thanh.

Talks were conducted between the delegation of the General Council of the TUA, led by the president of this council, Sotir Kocollari, and the delegation of the Trade Union Federation of Vietnam led by the president of this federation, Nguyen Van Tu. In the talks they dwelt on the achievements of our country in all the fields of life, the important measures and decisions that the party has adopted for the further democratization of the country's life and the functions and role of the trade unions in this process. They talked also of the actual achievements and developments in Vietnam and the tasks the Trade Union Federation is faced with for the socialist construction of the country. In course of the talks views were exchanged regarding the concrete experience of the work of both trade union organizations.

Attending the talks was also the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SR of Vietnam in our country, Nguyen Chi Thanh.

On the same day, the Vietnamese guests visited the National Museum of History.

Holds Talks With Cami, Miska

AU2511150190 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Comrade Foto Cami, Albanian Workers Party [AWP] Central Committee Politburo member and secretary, today received the delegation of the Trade Union Federation of Vietnam, led by its president, Nguyen Van Tu.

Comrade Foto Cami briefed the delegation on the new democratic developments in Albania, which encompass production relations, social relations, the country's legislation, and its foreign policy. Comrade Foto Cami stressed that these developments offer real possibilities for a more effective functioning of all the political structures in the country. He dwelt particularly on the correct relationship between the party, the state, and the mass organizations, taking into consideration their juridical and legitimate prerogatives.

The delegation of the Trade Union of Federation was also received today by Comrade Pali Miska, AWP Central Committee Politburo member, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of agriculture. Comrade Pali Miska briefed the delegation on the country's economic development and the advantageous implementation of the new economic mechanism, whose operation is also supported by the respective changes in the country's legislation.

The Vietnamese delegation expressed its thanks for the opportunity to visit our country and its appreciation for the process of further democratization in Albania and the positive and friendly relations between our two countries, peoples, and trade union organizations, wishing that these relations may be further developed in the future.

These meetings, which were conducted in a warm and friendly atmosphere, were also attended by Sotir Kocallari, president of the General Council of Albanian Trade Unions. Nguyen Chi Thanh, ambassador extraordinary

and plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in our country, was also present.

Transportation Agreement Signed With Bulgaria

AU2211130590 Tirana ATA in English 0908 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Tirana, November 21 (ATA)—On November 20-21, the delegations of the Ministry of Transport of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania, headed by its secretary general, Ferdinand Tako, and the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Bulgaria, headed by the deputy minister, Emil Zaharyev, conducted talks in Tirana.

During the talks they exchanged views on the cooperation in different fields of transport between the two countries, as well as in the Balkan framework. On this occasion the agreement between the government of the PSR of Albania and the government of the Republic of Bulgaria on the route international transport of the passengers and goods was prepared and signed and the respective protocol on the talks was signed.

Attending the ceremony of signing the protocol was the minister of transport, Comrade Hajredin Celiku, head of department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Gudar Toto, and the members of both delegations.

Present was also the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Bulgaria in Tirana, Stefan Naumov.

Trade Protocol Concluded With CSFR

AU2311152490 Tirana ATA in English 1210 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Tirana, November 23 (ATA)—The protocol on the exchange of goods and payments for 1991 was signed in Tirana between the government of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania and the government of the Federal Czech and Slovak Republic.

The protocol was signed for the Albanian side by Shane Korbeci, minister of foreign trade, and for the Czech and Slovak side by Anton Staricek [title not given], as well as the members of the two delegations.

According to this protocol, Albania will export to Czechoslovakia iron nickel ore, tobacco, fresh vegetables and fruits, etc., and will import semi-finished materials, oil tubes, steel tubes, tires, spare parts, vehicles, etc.

On November 22, the vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Pali Miska, received the Czechoslovak Government trade delegation headed by Jiri Brabec, acting minister of foreign trade. In the course of the reception views were exchanged on the further development of trade exchanges and cooperation between the two countries and the desire of the two governments was voiced to further develop these relations in all fields.

The reception was also attended by the deputy minister of foreign trade, Kostandin Hoxha. Present was also the interim charge d'affaires of the Federal Czech and Slovak Republic, Anton Staricek.

Role of Smaller Countries in New Europe Viewed

AU2311152890 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 11 Nov 90 p 4

[Shaban Murati article: "The New Europe and Small Countries"]

[Text] The great changes that have occurred and are occurring in Europe remind one of a chain reaction, in which the solution of one problem brings the need to solve another. These changes led to the unification of Germany, which was one of the most intractable problems of the European political scene for 45 years after the end of World War II. The new treaty on Germany and its unification extended the framework of relations between European states and the united German state. At the same time, different problems emerged involving the relations of one state or another with the entire complex legacy of World War II. For instance, Austria, as Chancellor Franz Vranitzky reported this week, decided to remove the clauses of the 1955 State Treaty which restricted Austria's sovereignty after World War II. Under the 1955 Treaty, signed by the four victorious wartime allies, Austria received the guarantees of an independent state in exchange for certain restrictions on her sovereignty. The restrictions were of various kinds, from a ban on missiles and the purchase of German or Japanese weapons down to a ban on buying German civilian aircraft. Austria's sovereignty is defined under the aforementioned treaty only within the bounds of a strictly neutral foreign policy.

Austria has increasingly felt the restrictions stemming from the 1955 Treaty as she has expanded her activities in the international arena, to the point of applying for EEC membership. In this context, the restoration of German sovereignty through the treaty and official act of 3 October 1990 also brought to the fore the problem of the restoration of full Austrian sovereignty through her release from now obsolete conditions which changes in Europe have rendered valueless. Commenting on the declaration of the Austrian Cabinet on the removal of clauses from the State Treaty which restrict the country's sovereignty, Foreign Minister Mock stressed that the declaration shows that "Austria cannot be discriminated against," and that "the Austrian decision reflects a transition to a new Europe characterized by sovereign states with equal rights [no closing quotes as received].

It is true that we are witnessing an attempt at a new regulation of problems, equilibria, axes, or European structures, and a search for a new Europe which will put behind itself the era of the cold war and bloc politics. It is equally true, however, that every European country in all this process and this search seeks to affirm its own sovereignty in the fullest possible way. In this context, Austria's decision to now remove those articles which

restrict her sovereignty is understandable and right. The aims of every European country to join and take part in a new Europe with equal rights is also understandable.

When we talk about a new Europe emerging as the result of the major and dramatic processes which have taken place on our continent, it is natural to aspire to and seek a Europe in which each state will enjoy its own security and sovereignty. This will be achieved not only by avoiding bloc politics and their bitter legacy, but by eliminating every kind of hierarchy of force and size. Achieving this leads to a comprehensive security of sovereign countries, each preserving its identity and individuality.

A new Europe can be real and fruitful if it is based on the equality of the rights of its member states, with an equal ear being given to the voice of each. Medium-sized and small countries—especially small ones—which have suffered so much from the results of the confrontation of the blocs, have all the more right to ask for such a thing. Such experience has also weighed heavily on the Albanian state, "almost continually in the sights of the cold war," as Comrade Ramiz Alia stressed at the 12th Albanian Workers Party Central Committee plenum. Just as small countries, therefore, ask that the new Europe should remove blocs and zones of influence from the continent once and for all, so they have the right to remove from their shoulders all restrictions or constricting obligations which stem from the past and have assumed shape in one treaty or another.

Small countries are more interested than anyone in the democratic processes in Europe and the world, the democratization of international relations, and the protection of human rights and national and democratic freedoms. In a new Europe which will affirm and realize precisely these lines of development, small countries would have greater opportunity and room to devote themselves to their internal development. It is, of course, well known that the great powers have a special responsibility to preserve peace and maintain the smooth running of world affairs. This is also recognized by the UN Charter and is shown by the experience of history. This responsibility, however, also entails greater efforts and a greater obligation to make a proportionately larger contribution to the democratization of international relations and to take into account the rights of others, especially medium-sized or small countries. This is a pledge at an international level and at a European level, because a new Europe is unimaginable without equality and mutual respect, and a new Europe cannot be anything other than democratic.

New Volume of Alia's Works Published

AU2511155690 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] The 8 Nendori Publishing House published recently the book by Comrade Ramiz Alia entitled: Speeches and Discussions 1989. This is the first time that most of the material has been published.

The speeches, discussions, and daily talks at meetings with secretaries of the Albanian Workers Party [AWP] Central Committee, as well as discussions with a number of cadres and specialists, and particularly the speech delivered at the eighth AWP Central Committee plenum tackle a number of important theoretical and practical problems of the party's work and life in our society, which had become obvious and demanded revolutionary answers and solutions.

The material included in the book deals with many new ideas and provides very valuable lessons and instructions for the continuous deepening and development of the processes pertaining to the further democratization of the party and of the country's entire sociopolitical life.

Permanent Plan, Budget Commission Report

AU2011180190 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 14 Nov 90 pp 1, 4

["Report of the Permanent Plan and Budget Commission, Submitted by Deputy Engjell Hoxha," to the People's Assembly in Tirana on 13 November]

[Text] Comrade deputies, the People's Assembly's permanent commissions were punctually informed about two bills prepared by the Council of Ministers, "On State Arbitrage," and "On Accountancy." They carefully studied these bills, collected the views of electors in the relevant areas, and discussed them at length after hearing the necessary reports. They appreciate the work done in drafting these two bills.

The democratization that is advancing irreversibly is being supported by one measure after another. "We can say," Comrade Ramiz Alia stressed at the 12th party Central Committee plenum, "that no sphere of social activity has failed to be included in the revolutionizing measures." In this context, the bills to be approved by the People's Assembly at this session have particular importance.

The solution of the fundamental problems of the development of the economy, culture, and other sectors, under the conditions of the introduction of the new economic mechanism, becomes easier with legal support. Management by law and according to legal norms has now become a demand of the times. It eliminates subjectivity, interventions, and other phenomena with consequences involving major social damage.

The approval of the law "On State Arbitrage" further enlarges the responsibility of state and economic organs and of arbitrage in the protection of the state's economic policy.

The legal definition of the structure of arbitrage and the way cases are judged makes it possible to guarantee to all parties an objective and unbiased judgment of issues of

vital importance for protecting the relative independence of enterprises or agricultural cooperatives from administrative interferences which not uncommonly try to restrict their rights.

The right of arbitrage to determine schedules for the priority fulfillment of obligations, as well as increased powers of administrative compulsion regarding supplies beyond the plan if contracted obligations are not first met, make the organ of arbitrage more dynamic and increase its responsibility for ensuring respect for contracted obligations.

This bill also reflects certain demands placed by the laws recently approved for the protection of foreign investments and the economic activities of enterprises using joint capital.

Cooperation with enterprises, firms, legally or physical foreign persons, or Albanians residing abroad is developing; the mutual obligations that arise in the field of these relations will demand the mediation of arbitrage. In this context, many provisions have been outlined in the law which support contract law, and protect these obligations from any violation. A special procedure to be followed in these cases to resolve misunderstandings fully guarantees the protection of the asset interests of foreign firms and enterprises which make investments or carry out joint economic activities in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

In contrast to the existing law, the new bill asserts the durability of the decisions of arbitrage. The decisions of arbitrage can only be annulled by the State Arbitrage under the Council of Ministers, to which only the Ministry of Justice, the prosecutor general, and the chairman of the State Arbitrage under the Council of Ministers will have recourse. Its decisions are compulsory for financial organs, the State Bank, and offices executing the decisions of civil courts.

Enshrining the rules of accountancy in law will further enlarge the responsibilities of managing, executive, and supervisory organs in enforcing the proper administration of property under the conditions of the conduct of self-financing economic and financial activities and the participation of foreign capital in industrial and commercial activities.

With these new relations, the state must exercise a more controlling role through the fiscal system. The spirit pervading the provisions of the bill serves this purpose, correctly harmonizing technical and organizational regulations with the rights, duties, and responsibilities of those bodies which deal with accountancy.

The People's Assembly's Plan and Budget Commission, having also borne in mind the comments and views of other commissions, and after examining and discussing the bills on arbitrage and the bills on accountancy, has the following comments and proposals:

The unanimous view of all the commissions on the bill on state arbitrage is that arbitrage under the individual ministries and other central institutions should be abolished as a superfluous link, and that arbitrage should be concentrated exclusively under the executive committees of district people's councils and under the Council of Ministers. The Council of Ministers has also agreed to this view, and has drawn up the relevant revisions, which have been distributed to deputies.

The Plan and Budget Commission and the other commissions have also expressed their views on certain improvements which must be made to Articles 1, 3 ,4 ,7, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, and 18 of the bill "On Accountancy." Their observations on this bill have been distributed to deputies in the hall.

I invite you, comrade deputies, to approve the two bills unanimously.

Government Survives Assembly's No-Confidence Vote

Lukanov Thankful for Show of Support

AU2311183490 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1532 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Address by Council of Ministers Chairman Andrey Lukanov at the Grand National Assembly session in Sofia—live]

[Text] Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen National Assembly deputies, I would like, first of all, to express my gratitude to those in parliament who confirmed their confidence in the government, and also to those who, with their critical attitude and negative vote, are stimulating it.

Esteemed National Assembly deputies, I think that we are involved in a complicated, new situation today. It is caused by several circumstances:

In the first place, it is caused by the fact that, despite my appeals, the opponents of the government, by refusing to participate in the vote, failed to express a clear approach to the proposals of the government. I am talking about the budget and about the 100-day program. Why have they adopted this stand? I could only guess, but if you ask for my explanation, it is the following:

The opponents of the government are unwilling to commit themselves with a specific stand either in favor, or against a program which they would implement themselves if they were in power. However, they do not wish to admit this fact either to our own public, or to the international community.

In the second place, a proposal on a vote of no confidence for the government was submitted. This proposal was not accepted and the government obtained a vote of confidence.

In the third place, a campaign of pressure against the government is being organized all over the country, yet meanwhile, an opposing trend of support for the government is emerging.

I would like to say in replying to a question I was asked, although I do not owe anything to anyone, that I continue to rely on a broad parliamentary support as a prerequisite for the implementation of a serious program. At the same time, however, I still insist on the other statement I made, which must have been overheard. I said that this prime minister, namely myself, will not resign from his post under the pressure of one or another political force; he will not yield to the pressure of threats with political strike and of manipulated propaganda campaigns.

Under such circumstances the prime minister shall not resign from his post. He will not betray democracy in this country.

I never permit myself to talk about other people, even about those who are [?calling me names]. I do not know from where Mr. Ganev borrowed this term. However, I am definitely talking about a scenario which is being implemented by an evidently existing staff.

I would like to tell this staff once more that this not the correct method of solving the question of a government under the conditions of a democratic country. At least, this is not the method of dealing with our government.

To be even more outspoken, I would say that no matter what my decision should be, it is my own privilege and the privilege of my colleagues from the cabinet to take such a decision. This decision will not be adopted to comply with the wish of a certain kind people who would like to transform Bulgarian politics into a poker game—into a game with marked cards at that.

As far as the so-called political strike is concerned, which I heard rumors about, I would definitely like to express the opinion of the government and of the Chief Prosecutor's Office—after having heard the opinion of the Chief Prosecutor a short while ago—that this strike is not legal according to the legislation in the People's Republic of Bulgaria [shouts heard], I mean in the Republic of Bulgaria, of course, and I apologize for this mistake.

The strike is illegal for the two following reasons:

In the first place, because the law on collective labor disputes does not admit a strike which expresses political demands. The question of the government is the typical example of a political issue. In the second place, because the trick which the organizers of the strike are using by claiming that their strike is directed against the employer, and not against the government, is a trick based on inappropriate methods. According to the same law, and even according to simple human logic, the government is only the employer of the Council of Ministers apparatus.

According to law, the relevant enterprises, companies, organizations, and other such institutions are considered as employers because they employ people on the basis of legal labor contracts.

In this connection, I propose to the Grand National Assembly and to all those members of parliament who respect the laws of the Republic of Bulgaria that we should adopt a declaration, or a decision in which we should express our stand on the attempts of organizing a political strike in our country.

I address the working people and employees from this rostrum with an appeal: Let us no longer destroy Bulgaria, let us not destabilize our society further, let us all respond to the people's wish for peaceful labor and unity.

Let us not only cherish Bulgaria, let us have pity on Bulgaria.

The government also expresses its readiness to pursue its resolute actions on the basis of the vote of confidence you granted it, in connection with implementing the budget and the 100-day program.

Esteemed ladies and gentlemen National Assembly deputies.

I dare not forecast how things will now develop in our country. Let us hope that they will develop in accordance with the laws of democracy, according to the laws of the Republic. This cannot happen unless we overcome the trend which we are feeling now again, a trend toward the mutual escalation of hatred, a trend which paralyzes all efforts aimed at joint action and consensus in the Grand National Assembly.

I would like to declare again my conviction that its necessary to overcome the one-party system. However, this can be only achieved with the support of all sensible people who wish that this country should peacefully proceed along its peaceful and civilized path of transition to a new state of affairs, to a new political and economic system, its toward Europe.

Under all circumstances and in all positions, I repeat in all positions, I am ready to contribute to a new unity of action with sincerity and conviction. This unity of action should be based on mutual confidence and on our country's common issues, objectives, and interests.

Thank you for your attention.

'Single-Vote Margin' of Victory

AU2311174990 Sofia BTA in English 1703 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 23 Nov (BTA)—Mr. Andrey Lukanov's Socialist government received a single-vote margin of confidence at the Grand National Assembly today.

The motion of no confidence in Mr. Lukanov, introduced by the opposition Union of Democratic Forces, was defeated just by the required simple majority of the votes of all 400 M.P's. The motion received 159 votes for, 201 against and six abstentions

Pre-Vote Situation, Atmosphere in Assembly Noted

AU2311170190 Sofia BTA in English 1450 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 23 Nov (BTA)—The no confidence vote on Mr. Andrey Lukanov will be carried if 201 M.P.'s vote aye in a secret ballot held at parliament now.

Last night the opposition introduced this motion and delivered a strongly worded declaration against the prime minister.

Before the vote today Mr. Lukanov did not specify what he was going to do if a little less than half of the M.P's vote no confidence in him, although the opposition demanded such explanation.

"Consult Mrs. Thatcher," the opposition leader Mr. Petur Beron suggested to the prime minister late last night. Neither yesterday nor today Mr. Lukanov has no such intentions.

Today Mr. Lukanov had to answer the accusations leveled at him by the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) in last night's declaration against his government and the specific questions raised today by the SDS spokesman.

Mr. Lukanov missed the opposition's accusations. He described the SDS declaration as "groundless literary exercises." The premier left many questions, mostly those which affect him personally, without a clear answer. On others he requested more information. He did not answer at all several of the questions.

The prime minister denied that his government is doing nothing and is to blame for the worsening economic chaos, but he still asserts that a one-party government cannot stay in office.

Protesters have been flocking around parliament building demanding Mr. Lukanov's resignation for a second day now. The demonstrators are less numerous today.

SDS Faction Temporarily Withdraws From Assembly

AU2311191890 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Debates throughout today's session at the Grand National Assembly focused on the draft resolution on a no- confidence vote for the government. More than 25 National Assembly deputies took the floor. [passage omitted]

Mr. Petur Beron announced that the parliamentary SDS [Union of Democratic Forces] faction is temporarily discontinuing its work in the Grand National Assembly.

Constituency To Be Consulted

AU2311195290 Sofia BTA in English 1927 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 23 Nov (BTA)—The parliamentary Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] will suspend its participation in parliament. The SDS M.P.'s will consult their constituents to decide the conduct of the parliamentary opposition further on, Mr. Petur Beron, leader of the SDS, told the Grand National Assembly today.

Political Climate Following Confidence Vote Noted

AU2311211890 Sofia BTA in English 2041 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 23 Nov (BTA)—Mr. Andrey Lukanov's one-party government today won a vote of confidence in parliament thanks to the Socialists' majority. The vote was taken at the insistence of the parliamentary Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] against the background of mass public protests against the Socialist government. For two days the Grand National Assembly has been sitting amidst anti-government demonstrations staged primarily by university students.

The parliamentary Union of Democratic Forces suspended its participation in parliament. The SDS floor leader Mr. Petur Beron declared today that consultations with the constituents will determine the opposition's future conduct. The SDS M.P's tried to overcome the paralysis of parliament by provoking a shift in the correlation of forces but this has proved unfeasible so far. Until now the SDS has guarded against provoking new general elections, believing that the most urgent thing which the country needs now are laws to allow the marketization of its economy.

"The Union of Democratic Forces has not yet decided to quit parliament," Mr. Georgi Markov M.P. of the SDS commented later. "If the SDS decides to leave parliament, the Socialists' majority will still have the right to stay in session. However, this is practically unrealistic," Mr. Markov believes.

The interviewed opposition M.P's declined to say how long they will stay away from parliament sittings.

The two largest trade union associations in Bulgaria have also raised demands. The Podkrepa Labor Confederation has called for a general strike on November 6. The confederation believes that the incumbent government must be replaced but does not recommend any substitute. The Prosecutor General's Office today circulated an announcement saying that a political strike would be unlawful.

Prof. Dr. Krustyu Petkov, leader of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions, today launched a sign-in campaign for no confidence in the Grand National Assembly. After its leadership met today, the confederation called on Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic, to take steps for the formation of a caretaker government.

Lukanov on Political Situation, Planned Strike

Makes Statements on Belgrade TV

AU2511185490 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] A short while ago Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov made a statement on Bulgarian Television in connection with the situation in the country. He described the next week as decisive for the democratic processes in Bulgaria. The civic peace in the country will face a test, he pointed out. He described the strike, organized by the Podkrepa Labor Confederation, which begins tomorrow, as an action masking the organization's political ambitions.

Further on the prime minister, legally elected by the parliament, pointed out that one must not ignore the problems our country has and the consequences of the strike. He said that the government has adopted measures aimed at maintaining services of vital importance for the population during the strike.

Deems Planned Strike 'Illegal'

AU2511192090 Sofia BTA in English 1855 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 25 Nov (BTA)—The government will act without any hesitation, you should support it, Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov appealed in his address made on television today. He reminded that the government had received confidence in parliament. He expressed his concern over the "undemocratic forcible" methods applied to impose a monopoly on society. Next week will be of decisive importance for the democratic process in the country, he said. In his opinion "the relative stability of the economy", the institutions, civil peace and the peaceful transition to democracy are put to the test.

His address is made in connection with the general strike declared by the Podkrepa Labor Confederation. The prime minister confirmed once more the opinion of the government that the strike is illegal.

The strike will jeopardize "the outer world's confidence in Bulgaria which is nearing the zero" and her economy, Mr. Lukanov stated.

The prime minister praised the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria for not giving its support to the general strike, "although I do not entirely agree with some of its positions", he said.

The government is taking measures for the normal functioning of all enterprises and public activities which are of vital importance for the country. According to Mr. Lukanov it is inadmissible to make use of the national mass media for "advertising" illegal drives.

The government will carry out its program, Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov stated and appealed for public support of the program of the socialist cabinet.

Lukanov Addresses BSP Rally; Clashes Reported

AU2411152090 Sofia BTA in English 1359 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 24 Nov (BTA)—If I resign—sooner or later I will do it for the general good of Bulgaria and not for her ruin, Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov stated, addressing the crowd of supporters of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) who gathered for a rally in the center of Sofia today.

Before this statement he sharply attacked some representatives of the opposition, using an unusually hard tone and calling them "power-lovers, gamblers, people without any morality." These people are blocking any attempt at reform for the sole purpose of getting ministerial seats, he said about the representatives of the opposition and accused them of "perpetrating a crime against Bulgaria," but did not mention names.

Mr. Lukanov expressed his resoluteness to carry out the government program for stabilization and economic reform, defining it once more as "cruel and difficult." He

confirmed his position that the unity of the nation is the main prerequisite for the success of the reform. Don't follow those who set this building afire, because their ultimate goal is to set all Bulgaria afire, he said, standing at the foot of the smoke-stained headquarters of the BSP Supreme Council, on which the traces of the fire of the end of August can still be seen.

Before that BSP leader Aleksandur Lilov characterized the Lukanov government's winning the confidence vote in parliament as a great political victory of the Socialists and called on the government for "action, action and action."

The leader of the Agrarian Trade Unions, Mr. Lyuben Kharalampiev, also took part in the rally. He said that the peasants will not support the strike at the beginning of next week.

[Sofia BTA in English at 1415 GMT on 24 November in a Sofia-datelined report describes "isolated incidents" following the BSP rally between followers of the BSP and the Union of Democratic Forces, SDS. The SDS had gathered for a counterdemonstration.

"The clashes between supporters of the ruling party and those of the opposition in which some people were injured started when the BSP adherents began to disperse. Thanks to the intervention of the police and to more composed participants in the rallies, the clashes did not grow into mass riots."

Further incidents were reported when "several hundreds of opposition supporters blocked the central crossing of Lenin Boulevard in Sofia. They sat down on the roadway in protest, anticipating a probable action on the part of the special security forces to disperse them." The "sit-in" lasted almost one hour, and was called off without any incidents. After the special police forces withdrew, traffic was unblocked. The demonstrators shouted "heroes" and "victory", when the police withdrew, "after they had met their appearance shouting 'murderers.'"]

Supporters Protest TU Leader Krustev

AU2411214690 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Waving red banners and shouting: Dr. Krustyu Petkov must resign, supporters of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] surrounded the building of the Independent Trade Unions Confederation headquarters in Sofia.

Their action was perhaps influenced by a statement of the BSP member of parliament Emilia Antonova at the BSP rally which ended a short while before the demonstration, that symptoms of an infectious political disease called "Walensism" are emerging in our country.

The demonstrators insisted on the resignation of Professor Krustyu Petkov, chairman of the Independent Trade Union Confederation. Signatures were collected in support of this demand. Their intention of entering the building and meeting the leader of the independent trade unions did not come true. The doors remained closed.

This prompted the crowd to chant: This building is ours; we will no longer pay our membership contributions; Petkov, you are a coward.

The demonstrators dispersed after the arrival of security forces.

SDS Conference Supports Strike, Feb Elections

AU2511195890 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] At a news conference today in Sofia, journalists were briefed on the decisions of the conference of Sofia Coordinating Councils of the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS]. The SDS news conference was also attended by representatives of the SDS Coordinating Councils from the larger cities, the National Coordinating Council, and members of the Grand National Assembly.

The SDS Sofia Conference views holding new parliamentary and municipal elections no later than February 1991 as a solution to the current situation. The city conference fully supports the general strike announced by the Podkrepa Labor Confederation, and continues to support the student sit-in.

The participants in the conference appeal to the chairman of the Republic, as chairman of the National Security Council, not to allow a civil mobilization.

The city conference adopted two declarations. The first discusses the establishment of the so-called Razgrad Republic, an act described as national treason and an attempt to undermine the frail democracy and create chaos and bloodshed in the country through inflaming nationalistic passions.

The participants support without any reservations the appeal of Zhelyu Zhelev, chairman of the republic, and appeal to the citizens not to succumb to nationalistic provocations and publicly denounce this shameful and illegal act.

The second declaration of the Sofia Conference of the SDS Coordinating Councils is a protest against the interference of Andrey Lukanov with the work of Bulgarian Television, an act described as brutal pressure, inadmissible in a democratic society.

The conference demands a legal investigation into Lukanov's act and that he be made personally to compensate the television for the loss of expensive time. The chief prosecutor was called upon to initiate court procedures against Lukanov for an attempt to censure the mass media on 24 November.

Beron: New Elections Last Resort

AU2511185790 Sofia BTA in English 1814 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 25 Nov (BTA)—Having in mind the present situation in parliament, where the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) has majority, it is impossible to form a government of the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) [SDS]; on the other hand the government of the BSP is not viable, Dr. Petur Beron, leader of the UDF, said on television today, characterizing the political situation in the country.

The UDF moved for a vote of no-confidence in the prime minister and the vote was necessary for the opposition to see on the cooperation of how many people from the socialist faction it could rely, Dr. Beron explained. According to him the opposition did not think Andrey Lukanov would resign. They knew the government would win confidence, because the BSP has majority in parliament.

Paradoxically, while the BSP has majority in parliament the UDF has majority in society, the observers here point out. Dr. Petur Beron reminded the results of a recent sociological survey which show that only 11.6 percent of the respondents rely on the BSP to effect the transition to market economy, 26.7 percent show preference for the UDF and 48 percent set hopes on the interaction between the political forces.

The leader of the opposition declared himself against dissolving parliament. In his opinion holding elections afresh could be a last resort, although it is the UDF which would win the elections. Anyway he is inclined to think that the Grand National Assembly will soon exhaust its possibilities for efficient work. He did not say whether and when the UDF national representatives will come back to parliament which they walked out from when Mr. Lukanov won the vote of confidence.

The Bulgarian parliament is paralyzed to a great extent by the confrontation between the two biggest political forces the BSP and the UDF. The prevailing opinion seems to be that the Grand National Assembly is unable to carry out its task according to the latest opinion polls its approval rating is low. Today public drives were held by some political organizations in support of the demand raised by the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions for a vote of no-confidence in parliament. The Union of Non-Party Members has come out with a similar declaration. Some regional UDF organizations have made decisions to this effect. More and more people think that there should be new general elections held simultaneously with the elections for local authorities at the beginning of next spring.

Lukanov's Career Viewed; Approval Rating Drops

AU2311202990 Sofia BTA in English 1854 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Panayot Denev report]

[Excerpts] Sofia, 23 Nov (BTA)—A week ago Mr. Andrey Lukanov promised parliament that he would leave office only "slamming the door". He did not do so today. By a single-vote margin the Grand National Assembly today defeated a no confidence motion introduced by the opposition. [passage omitted]

The opposition (some of its leaders are close friends of Mr. Lukanov) has never called into question his accomplishments as an erudite and an astute politician. He is suspected, however, of being unable to oppose conservatism and primitivism in his party, of dragging his feet on the economic reform in order to allow the nomenklatura of the former Communist Party to move from the top of political power to the top of economic power under the new conditions of private ownership and free enterprise.

A person like Mr. Lukanov is not in a position to cope with the mass in a party like his typically Stalinist Bulgarian Communist (now Socialist) Party and in a hopelessly backward country like Bulgaria. He treats the opposition with arrogance. Some of its leaders are former Communists, and Mr. Lukanov knows perfectly well their mentality. For nearly nine months Mr. Lukanov has managed to keep his head cool between the wavering and helpless Socialists (Communists), on the one hand, and the politically inexperienced oppositioners, on the other. During the last few days, he lost his temper under the massive pressure of hundreds of thousands of protesters and unrelenting attacks from the opposition press, he resorted to open threats on several occasions. He believes that the West would help Bulgaria only if he heads the government. He presents his ultraright but rather general program for economic reform as a work of his team in order to justify its absolute inconsistency with the Socialists' election campaign platform.

According to the experts' rating of the "DEBATI" weekly, Mr. Lukanov's approval as the best suited for the prime minister's job dropped from 59 to 39 per cent over the last month. The next on the rating list, however, Mr. Dimitur Ludzhev of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (SDS), has as little as 10 per cent, up from 6 per cent.

Poll Shows Drop in BSP, Government Popularity

AU2511140490 Sofia BTA in English 2107 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 24 Nov (BTA)—For the first time the rate of disapproval of the ruling Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) exceeds 50 percent. The November opinion poll held by the National Public Opinion Poll Center shows that the BSP is disapproved by 54 percent of the respondents and approved by 34 percent. The BSP's rating is lower even than that of the Podkrepa Labor Confederation, the opinions on which are usually contradictory. The rating of a number of parties and organizations of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) [SDS] is much better than that of the BSP.

The UDF is approved by 59 percent of the respondents and disapproved by 25 percent. It is the second most popular organization. Ecoglasnost is again at the top of the popularity list it is approved by 70 percent of the respondents. The rating of the Green Party (a member of the UDF) and of the Bulgarian Agrarian Party (BZNS) is also high they are approved by a little more and, respectively, a little less than half of the respondents. The Committee for the Protection of National Interests which has created inter-ethnic tensions is approved by 30 percent and disapproved by 14 percent of the respondents.

To the question "who would you cast your vote for now?" 43 percent of the respondents stated they would vote for the UDF; 23—percent for the BSP; four percent—for the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (MRF) [DPS]; and seven percent—for the BZNS. Twenty percent of the respondents would not vote at all.

The rating of the government is still declining in October it was approved by 46 percent of the respondents and now the percentage has gone down to 32. Confidence in the presidential institution is growing it is approved by 72 percent of the respondents. The rating of the Army and the police is also growing, but that of the law court and the Prosecuting Magistracy has dropped. The Bulgarian Television is approved by 70 percent of the respondents, the Bulgarian Radio—by 78 percent.

President Zhelyu Zhelev has the highest rating of approval 82 percent, and the lowest disapproval rating 10 percent. Vice president Atanas Semerdzhiev comes second—61 and 16 percent respectively. Dr. Petur Dertliev (the leader of the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party), Dr. Petur Beron (the leader of the UDF) and Mr. Ginyo Ganev (deputy chairman of the Grand National Assembly) are in the group of the top five. Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov is ranked sixth—he is approved by 50 percent of the respondents and disapproved by 40 percent. Until recently his approval rating was 71 percent. The rating of the opposition leaders Aleksandur Karakachanov (UDF), Stoyan Ganev (UDF), Viktor Vulkov (BZNS) and Dimitur Ludzhev (UDF) is close to that of Mr. Lukanov's.

President Addresses Nation on Razgrad 'Republic'

Deems Act 'Dangerous Precedent'

AU2311194490 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] About half an hour ago, Mr. Zhelyu Zhelev made a statement. Against the background of the severe political crisis which the country is living through regarding the vote of confidence in gover ment, Zhelyu Zhelev said, the mass media reported news that sounds as preposterous as it is incredible.

At a rally convened by the District Committee for the Defense of National Interests in Razgrad, a group of individuals announced the establishment of a local republic and declared that they will ignore the Grand National Assembly, the presidential institution, the government, and that they do not recognize certain laws of the nation.

Zhelyu Zhelev further evaluated this act as a dangerous precedent, which is an attack against the country's national integrity involving unpredictable consequences.

The president of the republic called on the Razgrad citizens and on the population in the areas with different ethnic inhabitants who are not responsible for the crimes of the former regime in connection with the so-called "national rebirth" process to distance themselves from this anti-constitutional and anti-national action.

No speculation and unreasonable actions will be tolerated on the question of the sovereignty, national security, and territorial integrity and indivisibility of the country, Zhelyu Zhelev declared.

He addressed an appeal to all political parties and mass organizations in the country, to the trade union centers, and to all other institutions, urging them to publicly denounce this act and openly to declare that they shall not tolerate such acts, regardless from which side they may stem, regardless of their political and ethnic motivations.

Political controversies and conflicts must be solved by legal and constitutional methods. Only thus can our young democracy survive and prosper, Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic, stated in closing his address.

Notes Mounting Interethnic Tensions

AU2411151390 Sofia BTA in English 1315 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 24 Nov (BTA)— Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic, this evening went on national television to issue an appeal in connection with the mounting interethnic tensions in the country.

"Against the background of the grave political crisis in the country, there came the incredible news of a 'Bulgarian Republic of Razgrad'," he said. He described its proclamation as "feudal separatism and dangerous precedent which encroaches on this country's territorial integrity and sovereignty. Those who identified themselves as patriots are now seeking citizenship in neighbouring states. The involvement of children and pupils in interethnic conflicts is alarming," the president pointed out.

The tensions in the areas inhabited by Bulgarians and ethnic Turks were stirred up by the objections which certain organizations took to the the Bulgarian citizens names act amendment whereby the ethnic Turks were given an opportunity to restore the names (which they had been forced to change by the previous totalitarian regime) without mandatory Bulgarian suffixes and by a simplified procedure.

After parliament passed this decision, the Committee for Defense of National Interests, the Fatherland Party of

Labor and other organizations initiated protests. A "Bulgarian Republic of Razgrad" was declared in the town of Razgrad, northern Bulgaria, whose "citizens" do not recognize the authority of the Bulgarian parliament and government. Several days ago Bulgarians living in Kurdzhali sought asylum in Greece. Today in Kurdzhali there were calls for municipal self-government.

The BTA correspondents yesterday reported further tensions in the mixed population areas. Civil disobedience has been declared in the town of Shumen. School classes have been suspended and an effective strike is in preparation. Bowing to demonstrators' pressure, the municipal leadership declared that it absolutely rejects the teaching of Turkish in the schools.

The regional leadership of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (which has a predominantly ethnic Turkish membership) in Khaskovo condemned the attempts to destabilize the situation in the country and insisted that the culprits for an incident involving an adviser to the president in Kurdzhali be called to account.

Movement for Rights and Freedoms M.P's asserted in parliament that tensions are being stirred up artificially.

The president called on the people of Razgrad and of the mixed- population areas who are not to blame for the old regime's assimilation campaign to distance themselves from the provocative actions. "The elimination of the consequences of the totalitarian regimes'assimilatory policy will not impair the rights of the Bulgarians in the mixed-population areas," Dr Zhelyu Zhelev emphasized.

He called on all political parties and public institutions to condemn publicly the unprecedented act of the declaration of a "Bulgarian Republic of Razgrad".

Further on Reactions to Zhelev Address

AU2411212290 Sofia BTA in English 1938 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 24 Nov (BTA)—The Federation of the Glasnost and Democracy Clubs (a member of the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS]) immediately responded to President Zhelyu Zhelev's address made last night in which he condemned the proclamation of the "Razgrad Republic of Bulgaria".

The Central Council of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms condemned this act of separatism. Today the National Council of the Fatherland Union qualified the acts of inter-ethnic confrontation as unconstitutional. The Alternative Socialist Party (a member of the SDS) backed up the president's address and expressed the opinion that public energy should not be deflected from the efforts for replacing the system in a democratic way. The Bulgarian Peace Movement, the Union of Non-Party Members, the Podkrepa Labor confederation (which has the status of observer in the SDS) condemned the acts of separatism and fanning up inter-ethnic hostility.

The members of the Social Democratic Party (non-Marxists) in Ruse consider that representatives of the Fatherland Party of Labor should not be allowed to become members of any governing bodies because they are stirring up ethnic hatred.

The leaderships of the other political forces have not yet responded to the president's address in which he called for condemning the unprecedented act. The ruling Bulgarian Socialist Party has not announced its stand on the problem.

The major political forces in Razgrad the Bulgarian Socialist Party, the Union of Democratic Forces, the Bulgarian Agrarian Party and the Movement for Rights and Freedoms, condemned the "Razgrad Republic" as a form of civil disobedience. But the Socialists there backed up the demand for a moratorium on the amendment to the Bulgarian citizens names act. The decision of parliament to allow the ethnic Turks to restore their names, which were forcibly changed by the totalitarian regime, without adding the typical Bulgarian suffixes to them and by performing some simplified formalities is considered to be the reason for the discontent of the National Committee for the Protection of National Interests and of the Fatherland Party of Labor. Several months these organizations organized protest demonstrations.

From the dispatches published in the mass media it seems that the adoption of the amendment law is the main cause for discontent. OTECHESTVEN VESTNIK writes, however, that probably "the prospects for the economic invasion of Turkish capitals" is also one of the causes for it.

The opposition press defends the thesis that the instigators of the acts which resulted in creating tension in the regions inhabited by Bulgarians and compact groups of ethnic Turks are the people who are afraid of retribution, because they took part in the implementation of the former regime's assimilation policy.

The regional organizations of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (uniting ethnic Turks mostly) came out with declarations against the artificial mounting of tensions.

In spite of all peace-making appeals, the civil disobedience drive is spreading in Northeast Bulgaria. There are supporters of the "Razgrad Republic" in several other places. The "Razgrad Republic" does not recognize the president, the government and the parliament of the country. Today its "founders" declared they disagree with the qualifications made in the president's statement . The "Razgrad Republic" has a moral meaning, they said.

Youth organizations which add attributes such as "patriotic" and "national" to their names are being set up. They are opposed to the "Turkization of Bulgarian education", i.E. They are against the introduction of optional classes in Turkish at the schools in the country.

At a rally held in Kurdzhali (South Bulgaria) the National Committee for the Protection of National Interests in Kurdzhali called for establishing civil self-government in the city. About 5000 people took part in the civil disobedience drive there. A warning for civil disobedience was received from the town of Dulovo, situated near Razgrad.

There are strikes, sit-in strikes and traffic blocking in the regions inhabited by mixed population.

Today the Bulgaro-Turkish Stambolov-Ataturk Friendship Society was founded. It is the second society of this kind founded here. Its purpose is to promote friendship and good neighbourly relations between Bulgaria and Turkey. The society will not pursue political objectives.

Parties, Organizations Support Zhelev on Razgrad

AU2411213790 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Several parties and public organizations have issued declarations expressing support for the president's appeal on the proclamation of the so-called Bulgarian Razgrad Republic.

The declaration of the Fatherland Union National Council states that this proclamation and the manifestations of ethnic confrontation are anti-constitutional acts and are directly aimed against civil peace and national interests. The Fatherland Union thinks that the nationality issue must be resolved with parliamentary methods, in a spirit of wisdom, and on the basis of mutual respect for human rights and dignity.

A declaration of the Central Council of the Rights and Freedoms Movement expresses concern about the unreasonable and irresponsible actions of certain circles.

The Central Council of the Rights and Freedoms Movement states with concern that in our country, especially in the Razgrad and Kurdzhali areas, a dangerous precedent related to national sovereignty has emerged. The Central Council appeals for the restoration of peace, order, and stability in the country.

The Alternative Socialist Party [ASP] denounces the acts of separatism and considers them national treason, a statement of the ASP Political Council points out.

The Bulgarian Peace Movement accepts President Zhelyu Zhelev's address to the Bulgarian people with satisfaction and approves his appeal for the preservation of national unity.

The Union of Nonparty Affiliated Members also supports the president's address.

The Executive Council of the Podkrepa Labor Federation expresses concern about the dangerous development of events in the areas with mixed ethnic population and appeals for support to the president's declaration.

Government Supports Zhelev Declaration

AU2511154890 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1400 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Council of Ministers Declaration on recent events in Razgrad, Kurdzhali, and other settlements; date not given]

[Text] In connection with the events in Razgrad, Kurdzhali, and other settlements, the Council of Ministers issued the following declaration:

The government expresses total support of the categorical position of the president of the Republic of Bulgaria, Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev that no political speculations or imprudent actions will be allowed in anything related to the issues of the country's sovereignty, national security, and territorial integrity. The government adopted measures through the organs of local administration, in which representatives of all political forces participate, to normalize the situation in those regions. The government is convinced that the acute problems could be resolves only if the national interests, national security, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Bulgaria are fully respected.

The problems that emerge on ethnic and religious grounds, must be resolved by strictly observing the rights of all citizens, the Constitution, current laws, and the international norms and principles of defending human rights.

The government appeals to all political forces and public organizations to cooperate in overcoming the tension, and preserving the country's national unity and peace, the declaration reads.

Council of Ministers Reacts

AU2511181090 Sofia BTA in English 1714 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 25 Nov (BTA)—The Council of Ministers has come out with a declaration on the events in Razgrad and Kurdzhali the regions populated by Bulgarians and ethnic Turks. The government absolutely shares President Zhelyu Zhelev's position that when the country's national security and territorial integrity are concerned, no political speculations and improvident acts will be allowed.

The government has taken measures to normalize the situation in these regions. The government emphasizes that all problems arising on ethnic or religious basis should be solved by strictly respecting all citizens' rights in compliance with the international standards.

The proclamation of the "Razgrad Republic of Bulgaria" and the intentions to establish civil self-government in Kurdzhali have been condemned by a number of political parties and organizations. The leadership of the Bulgarian Socialist Party has not yet expressed its attitude towards these events, resulting from inter-ethnic tensions, or towards the president's declaration.

It has been announced that Vice President Atanas Semerdzhiev will visit these regions to study the problems on the spot.

In reply to the address of the president, yesterday the activists of the "Razgrad Republic" explained that their act had moral meaning. They accused the political forces of flirting with the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (uniting ethnic Turks mostly). They admitted the existence of separatism, but stated it was inherent to other forces in the country, and not to the Committee for the Protection of National Interests.

Today in a radio broadcast the leader of the Fatherland Party of Labor blamed once more the Bulgarian parliament and the other institutions for laying aside the ethnic problem. He tried to persuade the listeners that the Bulgarians in northeast and southern Bulgaria felt jeopardized in their co-existence with ethnic Turks and with people professing Islam whose rights, having been violated by the previous regime, are now being restored.

After the Regional Magistracy in Razgrad gave orders to check if the proclamation of the "Razgrad Republic" puts a threat to the activity of the state bodies and the public power, the Green Party (a member of the Union of Democratic Forces) declared they had sent a report to the Prosecuting Magistracy requesting to hold an investigation of the case.

Razgrad Parties on Ethic Tensions, Declaration

AU2411170090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Ivo Kharizanov report from Razgrad]

[Text] This morning the Razgrad local press published declarations of the municipality's major political forces concerning the escalation of the social ethnic tension in the town. We do not want any Berlin walls, we protest against certain people who make claims and pretend to speak on behalf of all Razgrad citizens, the document issued by the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] states.

The Municipal Council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] shares and supports the demands for a complete solution of the nationality question and insists on the immediate appointment of a special, neutral parliamentary commission in the municipality.

The Socialists also support the idea of a moratorium on the newly adopted Law on Bulgarian Citizens' Names. The Okrug Operational Bureau of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms, in turn, appeals to all its members and supporters to show common sense and maintain their composure, without yielding to provocations.

It also was announced today that the Okrug Prosecutor's Office, in accordance with Article 191 of the Penal Code, has instructed the regional Directorate of Internal Affairs to immediately investigate whether the normal functioning of the legitimate state organs and public authorities in Razgrad is sufficiently protected.

A declaration in response to the president's appeal is now expected from the Fatherland Party of Labor and the Committee for the Defense of National Interests.

We will inform about the contents of the declaration.

Further on Razgrad Reaction

AU2511145790 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] After announcing the existence of the Bulgarian Razgrad Republic and its first decisions, the representatives of the Regional Committee for the Defense of National Interests in the town are now stressing the moral essence of their action. This is asserted in the response of the regional committee to the president of the Republic's address.

The declaration of the regional committee states: We are surprised by your reaction to the Bulgarian Razgrad Republic. As we already stressed, in this case, we are emphasizing the moral aspect of the concept of republic. The Razgrad Republic is not a state within the state, it is a form of expressing the citizens' opinions on important issues which have been neglected by the parliament. It is not a manifestation of separatism as you are trying to prove, the declaration of the Razgrad National Committee for the Defense of National Interests, states in its final passage.

Prosecutor's Office Denounces 'Political' Strike

AU2311205990 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Through BTA we received an announcement from the Chief Prosecutor's Office in connection with the increasing strike wave in the country and with the appeals for new strikes. The Chief Prosecutor's Office considers it necessary to explain some legal situations related to strikes and to the political actions and demonstrations of citizens' and organizations.

The question of strikes is settled by the Law on Settling Collective Labor Disputes. According to this Law, the workers are entitled to symbolic and effective strikes only on questions of labor and insurance relations and of the living standard which have not been solved by the employer.

According to the Labor Code, the relevant enterprises, companies, and organizations which employ individuals on the basis of labor legislation are considered as employers.

The state as a whole is not an employer and no demands can be addressed to it in this respect.

The Law on Collective Labor Disputes does not allow a strike which is based on political demands. Citizens are entitled to voice demands of a political, economic, social, cultural, and other nature on the basis of the conditions and regulations established by the Law on

Rallies, Meetings, and Demonstrations, the announcement of the Chief Prosecutor's Office disseminated by BTA says.

Independent Trade Union Federation Rejects Strike

AU2311213190 Sofia BTA in English 2000 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 23 Nov (BTA)—No to a political strike, yes to trade union action in defense of the people's interests: This is how Prof. Krustyu Petkov, the leader of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria, summed up its position at a news conference here today. He ruled out any cooperation with the Podkrepa Labor Confederation in connection with the political strike declared by Podkrepa for the beginning of next week. Podkrepa demands the resignation of the Prime Minister Mr. Andrey Lukanov.

Prof. Petkov accused the Podkrepa leadership of "having changed its position on the strike five times in ten days and said that future cooperation between the two largest trade union associations will be only based on a written agreement on trade union unity of action.

The Independent Trade Unions' leader reaffirmed the stand of his confederation on the formation of a government dominated by the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) or of a caretaker government supported by all political forces and stressed the decisive role of the president Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev for the political developments. Prof. Petkov however rejected the idea of the formation of an all-opposition government as premature and said he was disappointed at the opposition's performance in parliament over the last two days.

Mr. Petkov said that "Prime Minister Lukanov must be very brave to decide to implement his program without the support or at least the consent of the trade unions" and announced that the confederation will resort to a wide gamut of trade union actions ranging from a boycott of the government's measures to counterstrikes in order to defend its members' rights.

Prof. Petkov, however, flatly rejected the idea of a general political strike as "the last thing which Bulgaria needs at this point." "The economy now is in such a state that will collapse at a finger's touch," he said.

Independent TU's Confirm Refusal To Join Strike

AU2411184190 Sofia BTA in English 1653 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 24 Nov (BTA)—The President of the Republic, Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, received Prof. Krustyu Petkov, president of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria (CITUB), who explained the stand the confederation had taken as to the settlement of the political crisis. President Zhelev and Prof. Petkov and discussed the social, economic and political situation in the country.

Prof. Krustyu Petkov informed the president of the republic that CITUB disapproves of the political strike and it would not join it.

Council of Ministers Decree Warns Against Strike

AU2411211090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Declaration of the Council of Ministers:

On 19 November 1990 the Podkrepa Labor Federation called for a general strike to be declared in support of the demand for the government's resignation as of 26 November 1990.

The Chief Prosecutor's Office already declared that the Law on Collective Labor Disputes does not permit a strike based on political demands.

In accordance with this law workers are entitled to token and effective strikes only on questions of labor and insurance relations, and on living standard problems which the employer has not settled. According to the Labor Code the relevant enterprises, companies, and organizations are the employers to whom specific social demands should be addressed.

In this connection the government expresses its serious concern about the continuing appeals for a general strike which is evidently pursuing political objectives. Such appeals are in contradiction with the Law on Political Parties according to which political organizations in enterprises and administrative departments are banned.

The law contains special paragraphs stipulating that trade unions and other public organizations which are not registered as political parties are not allowed to engage in political activities.

The promoters and organizers of a general strike are assuming a grave responsibility. Such a strike would threaten our parliamentary system, law and order, and civil peace. Such a strike would increase the country's political instability, and is likely to exert an extreme effect on the international prestige of our young democracy, on our foreign economic relations, and also on the prospects of being granted loans and assistance for the stabilization of the Bulgarian economic situation.

The general strike would obstruct the announced measures on the social protection of the population during the transition to market economy, and the results of such a strike on our domestic economy would be negative in connection with supplying the population with the necessary basic food stuffs and consumer goods, especially at the onset of the winter.

With all its activities the government so far confirmed that it considers the trade union organizations as partners in solving the country's social and economic problems. The successes achieved within the framework of the tripartite agreement between the government, the employers, and the trade unions proves that only the

controversial questions and disputes in our society can be resolved only through a dialogue.

The Council of Ministers, within the framework of its competences, is ready to pursue this dialogue today and in the future on the basis of social partnership.

The government states its conviction that the feeling of civic responsibility and duty before the fate of our motherland shall prevail.

Bulgaria today needs working efforts, social peace, and understanding.

Lukanov Denies Podkrepa TU Official TV Time

AU2511165690 Sofia BTA in English 1605 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 25 Nov (BTA)—Prime Minister Lukanov personally tried to deter the two biggest trade union organizations in Bulgaria from declaring in public their disagreement with the activity of the socialist government headed by him.

Mr. Lukanov, who 24 hours before it had won confidence in parliament as leader of the government with a bare majority of only one vote, last night personally prohibited the Podkrepa Labor Confederation from going on television and announcing a general political strike alert. The TV Panorama Weekly Review went on air with an unprecedented delay of seven minutes, because the prime minister had made a call and personally threatened the anchorman that he would be brought to court if the Podkrepa vice-president was allowed to appear in the Panorama Review. Three hours later, in the last night news, the Podkrepa representative went on television and expressed resentment at Lukanov's ban. Prof. Krustyu Petkov, leader of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria, appeared in the night information block too. He appealed for collecting signatures in support of the demand to disband the Grand National Assembly. Prof. Petkov was also to take part in the Panorama Review.

Mr. Ivo Indzhev, deputy director general of the Bulgarian Telegraph Agency, went on television late last night to make a protest against the pressure Mr. Lukanov exerted on the BTA. In a telephone call the prime minister insisted that the BTA should not disseminate information about the general political strike.

Later on, in an official announcement, the government explained that the spreading of such information could destabilize public peace and economic activity in the country. According to the government the release of information about the strike would provoke the commitment of illegal acts.

Podkrepa Labor Confederation Calls General Strike

AU2511174290 Sofia BTA in English 1722 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 25 Nov (BTA)—The Podkrepa Labor Confederation declares a general strike in support of the demand for the resignation of the government on Monday, November 26, 1990, 06:00 hrs [0400 GMT].

Andrey Lukanov's socialist government is "an inadequate social partner contravening the international conventions Bulgaria has ratified", Podkrepa states.

Podkrepa explains the reasons for going on strike by pointing out that the government has not fulfilled the agreements concluded and has refused to hold negotiations with the Podkrepa Labor Confederation on the compensations for the rise in prices, thus breaking any dialogue and social partnership with this trade union organization.

Legal Adviser Says Strike Legal

AU2511192190 Sofia BTA in English 1832 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 25 Nov (BTA)—The general strike which will begin at 06:00 hrs. [0400 GMT] tomorrow is legal, the law expert of the Podkrepa Labor Confederation stated in reply to the government and the Prosecuting Magistracy which declared that the strike is illegal. General strikes are not treated in the texts of the Bulgarian law and the Podkrepa Labor Confederation points out that as it is not banned by law, then the strike cannot be considered illegal.

Podkrepa leader Konstantin Trenchev went on television and reminded the prime minister that if a government cannot secure a living minimum for the population it must resign. The general strike is declared in support of the demand for the resignation of Andrey Lukanov's cabinet.

Dr. Trenchev explained that the strike is an attempt to channel and give a civilized form to the rising public protest against the government and against the culprits for the country's economic collapse.

The Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria (CITUB) will not take part in the general strike. It is not important to oust the government, but to replace the system. The transition from totalitarianism to democratic society has not begun yet, stated Prof. Krustyu Petkov, leader of CITUB, appearing in the same television program.

He accused the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] of trying to disunite the CITUB. The occasion for his statement was provided by yesterday's demonstration against the CITUB organized by the BSP. The demonstrators began collecting signatures for dissolving parliament.

Strike Begins; BTA Joins

AU2611075590 Sofia BTA in English 0745 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 11 Nov (BTA)—The personnel of "External Services" Department at the BTA joins the general strike announced by the Podkrepa Labor Confederation which started at 6 a.m. [0400 GMT] local time. The department will broadcast announcements about the course of the strike in this capital city and throughout the country and about more important events.

Mixed Reaction to Strike Call Noted

AU2611093290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Text] According to information provided by the Podkrepa Labor Confederation Strike Committee in Ruse this morning the collectives of 14 enterprises in the city have begun a real strike. Among them—the Nayden Kirov, Petur Karaminchev, Soft Drinks, Ship Building, Ship Repair, and the Steel Pipes Enterprises.

The Historical Museum has announced a symbolic strike. The collective of the city clinic has announced a half strike [polovinna stachka], because of the specific activity of this medical institute.

Strike activities have been organized in Byala, Razgrad Oblast, where the Podkrepa Labor Confederation has about 200 members in the Mobil and Latek enterprises, and in the local clinic.

The Ruse Coordinating Council of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria has no information about the participation of its organizations in the strike.

About 100 Podkrepa branches in Varna are participating in the strike, Georgi Sveshtnikov, our correspondent, reports. According to Mirolyub Ganchev, chairman of the Strike Committee, the strike is most effective in the Ekopark plant, the Golden Sands Transportation enterprise, [?Temix] Resource, and the shipyard.

This morning about 1,200 workers and specialists of the Kozloduy Nuclear Plant's Administration and repair shops announced a symbolic strike. Our correspondent Veselin Angelov points out that the plant's workers, as members of the Union of Nuclear Plant Workers, support the demands of the Podkrepa Labor Confederation for the resignation of the government and the resolving of many acute problems of the power supply system workers throughout the country.

The workers of Sevlievo municipality announced this morning a two- hour real strike. For two hours, between 0800-1000 [0600-0800 GMT], transportation in the municipality was paralyzed. Podkrepa's supporters in the Dynamo, Stefan [?Pechev], Akhmed Tatarov, and Canned Foods Enterprises announced a real strike.

Nayden Rangelov, our correspondent in Stara Zagora reports that the workers of the Maritsa-East Economic Trust do not support the strike. The workday began normally and the workers are supplying the necessary quantity of electric energy. They are doing this despite the difficulties caused by the fog and the irregular rail traffic. Despite this, the supply of coal continues from the mines and the power supply workers continue to supply about 1,200-1,300 megawatt power daily. The three electric power plants are functioning normally.

Podkrepa Claims Half a Million Striking

AU2611103890 Sofia BTA in English 1009 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 26 Nov (BTA)—Some half a million people are taking part in the general strike declared by the Podkrepa labour confederation.

The BTA was informed about that by Krustyu Krustev, chairman of the Podkrepa national strike committee, who also said this figure showed the development of the strike in the morning and that further data will be known later.

Podkrepa members are on strike in 30 enterprises in Sofia, in 40 in Plovdiv, in 17 in Yambol, etc. The radio broadcast about symbolic and effectivce strike actions in Pleven, Varna, Ruse, Dobrish, Byala and some other cities.

In health care establishments, energy, production of foodstuffs and other prime commodities the strike is symbolic.

Strikes Reportedly Isolated

AU2611112190 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Report on Podkrepa strike by Nora Ananieva, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; in the Sofia Radio studio—live]

[Text] [Announcer] Mrs. Nora Ananieva, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, reports on information received so far by the Council of Ministers about the Podkrepa strike:

[Ananieva] The Council of Ministers is closely following the situation throughout the country. We receive reports from various sources, not only from the ministries and departments, but also from companies, enterprises, and the provisional executive committee of the municipalities. At present the situation is as follows:

As a whole, the economic and material spheres are functioning normally. Obviously, against the background of our complex economic situation, they did not respond massively to the call to strike. The strikes are isolated to separate settlements and enterprises, and even in those cases they are conducted by separate groups within the collectives, usually, supporters of the Podkrepa Labor Confederation. The reports that collectives of such major enterprises such as Kremikovtsi and Neftochim have joined the real [non-symbolic] strike, are untrue. Both enterprises are functioning normally. Through such reports, the organizers of the strike are

trying to create an incorrect impression about the strike and therefore, we deem it appropriate to ask the collectives and enterprises to inform the public and the mass media through telegrams and phone calls about the situation. I would like to add that Bulgarian Radio has already refuted several reports, and follows the correct line of personally checking reports before airing them.

As a whole, the country's city transportation, as well as transportation between settlements has begun to function normally. The trains and buses are traveling freely, and the air and water transportation are functioning normally.

Economic activity in Sofia was reported in detail, and there is no need for further details. The citizens experienced difficulties as a result of hasty actions on the part of some collectives of the Druzhba and Zemlene Bus Transportation Companies. Unfortunately, I would like to stress that those are the drivers who first received greater social benefits this year, before anyone else in the country, and we are prepared to inform citizens in the next few hours about Sofia drivers' benefits.

Outside Sofia there are difficulties in the city transportation in Pazardzhik and Petrich. Stores throughout the country received their supplies without difficulties or interruption. The situation did not differ from that of the last few days.

The government would again like to remind citizens of the opinion of the Chief Prosecutor's Office, because Bulgarian Radio aired an opinion that there is almost no authority which could respond to the provocation. We remind everyone of the view of the Chief Prosecutor's Office, which is a sufficiently authoritative source, that the Law on Collective Labor Conflicts does not allow a strike based on political demands, and that the citizens who participate in such actions must know that they are violating the law, and could be held responsible for inflicting material damage.

We must also remind the citizens that no one has the right to obstruct his colleagues from performing their normal duties. The oblast and municipal people's councils, with the assistance of the organs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, are taking necessary measures to protect citizens' peace and the public order, wherever they have been violated.

The government again appeals to the leaderships of the companies and economic organizations to utilize their legal prerogatives and prevent violations of the normal production process. We call upon the citizens who succumbed to the strike appeal to return to their workplaces and thus avoid inflicting damage to their plants and discomfort to the citizens.

The government will closely follow through various sources the situation's developments and will continue to regularly inform the citizens about the situation.

Zhelev Appeals to Party Leaders for Compromise

AU2611111290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1100 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Declaration from presidential spokesman Valentin Stoyanov in Sofia—recorded]

[Text] The political tension in Bulgaria has reached dangerous proportions. The danger of unrest, violations of public order, and violations of the right of the citizens has emerged. This threatens civic peace. The further escalation of tension is inadmissible. In this situation great responsibility rests with he country's political forces.

The chairman of the Republic, Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, appeals to the leadership of the Bulgarian Socialist Party and the Union of Democratic Forces, to rise above their narrow party interests, meet already today, and publish a joint declaration which will express their striving toward a reasonable political compromise which will lead Bulgaria out of the acute political crisis.

The president appeals to the Grand National Assembly to resume its work and concentrate on its legislative activity and the preparation of the new Constitution.

Kyuranov Speaks at BSP Turgovishte Rally

AU2511154690 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1400 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] On 25 November a rally of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] took place at Turgovishte Central Freedom Square. The participants greeted Chavdar Kyuranov, deputy chairman of the BSP Supreme Council, with exclamations "Lukanov!", "Unity!", and "Bulgaria!"

In his speech Chavdar Kyuranov clarified his party's position at the Grand National Assembly and appealed for unity in resolving the national problems.

An appeal of trade union figures to Turgovishte's working people was read at the rally. In it they are called upon to refrain from participation in political strikes.

Former Communists Assess Major Political Forces

AU2311170590 Sofia BTA in English 1358 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 23 Nov (BTA)—Two commentaries published by OTECHESTVEN VESTNIK and DUMA, headlined respectively "The Faults of the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party]" and "Which Way Now, UDF [Union of Democratic Forces—SDS]?" focus attention on the major political forces' responsibility for the crisis in the society and the country one year after Todor Zhivkov's totalitarian regime was overthrown.

The authors both members of the former Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] (the present Bulgarian Socialist Party), blame this party for not having taken sufficiently rapid and efficient steps toward reform.

Without denying the role of November 10, 1989 the day when a group of reform-minded members of the BCP ousted Todor Zhivkov, Ivan Dimitrov, the author of the article brought out by OTECHESTVEN VESTNIK states that this day preconditioned the painful premature birth of democracy in Bulgaria and its even more painful development.

According to him the faults of the former BCP and the present BSP are: the lack of an analysis of its activity in the period of Bolshevization (1919) and especially in the period after 1945; its not turning into its own opposition and an opposition of its past; the lack of initiative as to disclosing the crimes and the settlement of the problem of the party property. He reproaches the leadership of the party for not leaning on its members who were known to be radical-minded before November 10, 1989; for the chaotic transference of the party organizations from workplaces to places of residence; for its disillusionment as to the election results in favor of the BSP, thanks to which it did not change its methods, thus "losing confidence and prospects". According to the author it was not the BSP leadership that won the elections, but its million-strong members; it is a victory won thanks to the confidence the greater part of the population had in the party and which is now dwindling away.

Further on reproaches are made for the inconsistency of the one-party Socialist government in working out the economic reforms and programs. The people trusted the prime minister; but as things are going, the confidence in him is declining and nearing the zero, the author writes, pointing out that the kilometres-long lines are "the worst testinomy given to the BSP and the government" and that they should be considered as constant anti-government rallies.

Associate Professor Zakhari Zakhariev points out in DUMA that the hopes of the "organizers of the takeover on November 10" for a kind of a "Spanish variant" of the transition to democracy were quickly shattered by their own scuffles and the illusory attempts to lay all the blame on the former number one and to cultivate a polite and good-natured out-of-parliament opposition.

The first fault he finds with the opposition forces is their forming a coalition (the Union of Democratic Forces) a logical move at the moment, which subsequently turned against against the interests of the founders themselves, lessened their personal ability to adapt themselves politically to the dynamic changes in the situation, blocked the building up of organizational structures, deprived the separate parties and movements from their political identity. What is more, the ambition of the UDF to quickly counterbalance the BCP opened its doors for dabblers in politics who put their personal ambitions and lust for power above any civic responsibility. By and by former Communists lined up under the banner of democracy, having decided that the time had come to leave the second echelon and place themselves at the "head" of the new nomenclature; adventurers thirsting for power (with or without degrees) and even persons showing criminal inclinations joined them. According to the author the pressure put by the latter on the true democrats and the really competent persons in the UDF is not only a threat to the democratic growth of the opposition parties, but exposes the security of the whole society to danger.

The author writes that the strategy these forces are pursuing with regard to the BSP—trying to undermine its mainstays through restricting the parameters of its public influence and to nationalize its property; carrying out an outrageous campaign to discredit it and trying to pin on it all responsibility for the inevitable parliamentary crisis—is extremely risky.

According to the author, if the opposition is successful in carrying out its course to the end, it would result in a greater "hardening" of the UDF because, having crushed their political antipode, its new leaders (the old ones who have common sense, a sense of responsibility and a constructive approach will be swept away very soon) will lay the firm foundations of a new totalitarianism.

In his opinion the situation in Bulgaria, which is different from that in the traditionally democratic countries, requires the application of unused before or unusual forms of circulating the political resources, a greater diversity of the participants who should freely compete on the basis of guaranteed constitutional freedoms.

Internal Affairs Directorate on 24 Nov Incidents

AU2411213590 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] The Sofia Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs issued the following announcement:

Today, following the end of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] rally, which took place at the 9 September Square, around 1250 [1050 GMT], violent disputes developed between departing supporters of the BSP and of the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS].

In the area around Rakovski Street, Benkovski Avenue and [street name indistinct] individual supporters of the two movements physically assaulted each other. The organs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs intervened and broke up the clashes.

Thanks to this active intervention on the part of the law and order forces, no serious incidents occurred.

At 1320 a group of individuals demanding the government's resignation blocked the crossing of the Eagles' Bridge. Traffic was restored at 1400, after a representative of the SDS Coordination Council intervened.

SDS Plans for Economic Reform Outlined

AU2211133790 Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian 20 Nov 90 pp 1,2

[Interview with Ivan Kostov, chairman of the Grand National Assembly Economic Policy Commission, by Aleksandur Angelov; place and date not given: "The Union of Democratic Forces Needs 700 Days"]

[Excerpts] [Angelov] Mr. Kostov, let us begin with the following question: What kind of economic program would an SDS dominated government submit to Bulgaria? What are the fundamental differences between your program and Lukanov's?

[Kostov] The program which the SDS intends to submit would chiefly differ from the government program in the following respects: In the first place, we are convinced that particular care should be devoted to the protection of the people's savings, considering that super-inflation would destroy them, which would also eliminate all the potential likely to promote privatization. In the second place, we intend quickly to stimulate the mechanism of privatization by smoothly proceeding from "small scale" to mass privatization and by creating all prerequisites for promptly accomplishing this task. We do not delude ourselves as regards our priorities—we attach priority importance to the interests of the economic subject, namely of business, as a whole. The care for the economic sector in a similar transition program is a fundamental principle and it is impossible to pursue any other political, social, or other goals at the same time.

[Angelov] Could you specify the objectives of your program and the order in which you intend to cope with the basic problems? In implementing this program, what should the country look like within the next one, two, and five years?

[Kostov] The program envisages several parallel changes in the economic sector as a whole. The first is related to changes within the economic institutions, connected with the establishment of an apparatus for the regulation of a market economy. We have a whole program ready for the establishment of such institutions, such as a new national bank, an audit office, new regulations for the customs authorities, and so forth. A specific timetable was set up for the adoption of the necessary laws by the Grand National Assembly throughout the period within which the program is expected to be implemented. Another parallel line of action is the coordinated economic policy, especially in the sphere where inflation prevails. The program is based on a joint timetable which is still in the process of detailed specification. We are talking about a period of approximately 700 days, or about 20 months. The first results of the program should appear within the next one, or two years. The consumers' market may be stabilized even within less than a year. By the end of the second year, however, the economic changes should be such as to make the restoration of a socialist system totally impossible. We hope that within the forthcoming five years we shall be a prosperous country advancing along the path of market economy and of a free, post-capitalist civic society. We are confident that this will become true! [passage omitted]

IAEA Says Kozloduy Plant Functioning Normally

AU2411173190 Sofia BTA in English 2112 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 23 Nov (BTA)—Mr. Maurice Rosen, director of the Nuclear Energy and Safety Department of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), told a news conference here today that the experts who took part in the IAEA'S operational safety review mission found that the nuclear power plant in Kozloduy functions normally and there are no grounds for worry over accidents with harmful effects on the population and the environment.

One recommendation is to set up an independent organization to monitor the plant's maintenance. This organization would play an important role in ensuring nuclear safety for Bulgaria. "We also recommend that you join actively the current international efforts to improve the operation of plants running this type of reactors," Mr. Rosen said.

The IAEA team has submitted to the Bulgarian Government its findings and recommendations for safe and reliable reactor operation in keeping with international requirements.

Two Romanian experts, who support the findings of their IAEA colleagues, took part in the work of the team in an observer capacity.

Nation Said Prepared To Join UN Forces in Gulf

AU2411150090 Sofia BTA in English 1328 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] United Nations, 24 Nov (BTA)—Bulgaria, which has always supported UN peacekeeping operations in different parts of the world, wants to take a direct part in them by sending a unit of her own. In reply to an enquiry of the UN secretary general addressed to all states, Bulgaria declares she is ready to secure an infantry battalion of 405 people and ten military observers, the Bulgarian delegate Mr. Svetlomir Baev announced at the special UN Political Committee. "We hope that in future UN operations in Western Sahara, Cambodia and Salvador Bulgaria will be given the possibility of proving in deed her adherence to the efficient use of this institutions to the interest of world peace and security," Mr. Baev said.

Bulgaria supports the proposal to set up multinational UN forces for keeping world peace, it was stated at the UN Political Committee. Delegate Baev said that Bulgaria approves the expansion of peacekeeping operations, which could be used to monitor the holding of free and democratic elections, too.

Plans Made for Opening Diplomatic Bureau in RSA

AU2211104390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] On 22 November at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs notes were exchanged between Bulgaria and the RSA with which the issue of opening bureaus for representing interests at the two countries' capitals, was resolved. The documents were exchanged by [name indistinct], head of Africa Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Nicholas Dubois, head of the Europe 4 and USSR Department at the RSA Foreign Ministry.

First Step in 'Formal Relations'

AU2211134390 Sofia BTA in English 1139 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Sofia, 22 Nov (BTA)—Bulgaria and the Republic of South Africa today set the beginning of their formal relations by an exchange of notes on the opening of interest sections in the two capitals.

The notes formulate the two countries' common understanding to discuss further the practical promotion of this agreement.

The South African note was handed together with a letter from Mr. Roelof F. Botha, minister of foreign affairs of South Africa, to his Bulgarian counterpart Mr. Lyuben Gotsev, in which the exchange of notes is assessed as a step towards a complete normalization of relations between the two countries and towards an increase of bilateral cooperation.

Bulgaria specified that in keeping with the decisions of the Bulgarian state leadership, Bulgaria maintains contacts and links with the Republic of South Africa in strict compliance with the respective UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions concerning South Africa.

The establishment of formal relations was preceded by a two-week visit to South Africa from November 7 to 21 by a Bulgarian delegation headed by the chief of the Africa Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

It was pointed out during the talks that the processes of democratization in both countries and the gradual dismantling of the apartheid system in South Africa, started by president F.W. De Klerk's speech on February 2, 1990 helped expand the dialogue and establish formal bilateral relations.

Some time ago, a representative of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of South Africa paid an informal visit to Bulgaria.

Construction Workers Expected To Work in Germany

AU2211113390 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 19 Nov 90 p 2

[Boryana Buchvarova report: "Bulgarian Builders Are Ready For Germany"]

[Excerpts] The agreement which entitles Bulgarian workers to work on a contract basis through their enterprises in Germany will presumably come into force in January 1991. As is known, the quota, which envisages 2,000 people from various professions, expressly indicates 2,000 more building workers over a three-year period.

Hardly any cooperative, municipal, or state-owned construction company will remain indifferent to this great chance. [passage omitted]. The official signing of the agreement is expected to take place by the end of November or beginning of December 1990.

The signing of the agreements for the stay of the Bulgarian workers in Germany will be based on German legislation and take into consideration the existing agreements between the two countries. The Bulgarian builders will receive the same wages as German workers. [passage omitted]

With a few exceptions, the deadline for the Bulgarian workers' stay in Germany is limited to two years. The workers will not be accompanied by their families. [passage omitted]

CTK Provides Background to Local Elections

LD2311235190 Prague CTK in English 1254 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 23 (CTK)—The two-day local elections which begin in Czechoslovakia today will decide between two main forces: those that will work for the start of economic reform and those seeking regional or national autonomy.

"Either a united economic program for the federation wins on Saturday or it will be buried by regional and national ambitions," the independent weekly "RESPECT" wrote in its latest issue.

The Civic Forum (OF), the clear winner in last June's parliamentary elections and the most resolute supporter of the reform is still the leading contender in the Czech Republic but it has suffered a considerable decline in popularity. According to a poll conducted a month ago, 26 per cent would have voted for it in the Czech Republic, against more than 50 per cent last June.

The only parties that have significantly strengthened their positions since the parliamentary elections are the autonomy-seeking self-government Democracy Movement-Society for Moravia and Silesia (HSD-SMS) and the Slovak National Party (SNS). According to pre-election polls, 10 per cent would vote for the Moravian Party, the second largest percentage among the parties of the Czech Republic, and 17 per cent for SNS.

"Several dozen per cent of votes for SNS in Slovakia would put an end to reform because disputes over power-sharing would freeze it. What is more, the Communist Party would turn out to be the only federal force" in both republics, "RESPECT" wrote.

The communists still make a strong showing despite losing in pre-election polls especially in the Czech Republic. They run 30,178 candidates against 36,140 of the Civic Forum, in 3,714 towns and villages, the largest number of all parties and movements (OF in 3,658). Its members are now mostly left-wing intelligentsia of a higher age. Generally the average age of its candidates is higher than for other parties. Polls put their chances at 7 per cent in the Czech Republic and 12 per cent in Slovakia.

In the Slovak Republic the spectrum is generally more balanced, with the civic movement Public Against Violence (VPN) favoured by 15 per cent, SNS 17 per cent and the Christian Democratic Movement (KDH) 10 per cent.

In both parts of the country independent candidates have high ratings—17 and 18 per cent, or second and first place, in the Czech and Slovak Republics respectively, evidently because party membership has become unpopular in the country after decades of political monopolies. It is not clear, however, if they will be inclined to push or rather slow down the reform and it is also assumed that some of them may be former communists.

Generally, the turnout is expected to be considerably lower than in the June parliamentary elections when it exceeded 96 per cent. As the first elation after the fall of the communist regime has subsided the public becomes more critical and mostly complains that little change has taken place in the system and that the same people remain at the lower levels of government, industry, administration and management generally. Only between 50 and 60 per cent said they were determined to vote in pre-election polls.

Czech, Slovak Press Comment on Local Elections

LD2611100690 Prague CTK in English 0847 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 26 (CTK)—Today's Czech dailies comment on the local elections in the Czech Republic on November 24 and in the Slovak Republic on November 23-24.

The independent daily "MLADA FRONTA DNES" carries an interview with Federal Prime Minister Marian Calfa who says he expected that the participation in the local elections will be lower than in the parliamentary elections in June as only few people knew the candidates now (only 75 per cent took part).

The daily expresses astonishment at the fact that Ludvik Zifcak (secret police StB collaborator who pretended to be dead after the demonstration in the centre of Prague on November 17, 1989) was deputy chairman of the local election commission in Valsov near Bruntal (North Moravia). He was nominated by the Communist Party.

The daily of the Czechoslovak People's Party "LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE" says that in spite of the fact that the number of voters in the local elections was lower than in the parliamentary elections in June, according to preliminary results the participation was higher than in other countries of the former eastern bloc.

Communist deputy to the House of Nations of the Federal Assembly Jozef Kosnar deals in an interview for the left wing daily "RUDE PRAVO" with the alternative proposal of the transformation law (on big privatization) which the communist deputies want to push through in the parliament. "In our opinion privatization should especially be a process of denationalization creating conditions for plurality of various ownership or business forms and ensuring equal rights for all," he says.

Professor Milan Zeleny of Fordham University in the New York Lincoln Centre, who has arrived here after 23 years in exile to lecture on organization and management, told the farmers' daily "ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY" before his departure for the USA that there exist a number of possibilities of privatization which always depend on a concrete situation, on local conditions. There is no universal recipe for this, he stressed.

The daily for politics and economy "HOSPODARSKE NOVINY" writes that after the removal of directive management businessmen need information about laws

outlining their rights and duties and about economics policy. According to a public opinion poll carried out by the Pragoconsult firm businessmen are interested especially in credit and interest conditions, tax system, expected development of rates of exchange, changes in conditions for the participation of foreign partners in internal economy, pace of the liberalization of prices, prognoses of the development of local raw materials, energy and products prices etc.

The inhdependent daily "LIDOVE NOVINY" comments on a government draft on prices which is being discussed by the Federal Assembly these days. It is quite clear that the creation of market prices must have its rules. The state has to create these rules and ensure their respect, the paper says.

Bratislava—All Slovak dailies today pay attention to the local elections held in Czechoslovakia at the weekend. The independent daily "NARODNA OBRODA" says that relatively a low number of citizens went to the polls. The communist daily "PRAVDA" writes that there were 2,334,227 voters in the Slovak Republic, i.e. 63.75 per cent. Most dailies agree that people in the countryside showed greater interest in the elections and that citizens in towns were apathetic. In the Slovak capital only 44.5 per cent of the registered voters went to the polls.

NARODNA OBROBA describes the local elections as a useful litmus-paper which tested the characteristic parametres of the present political situation. The reason for lower participation is general disappointment after the June 8-9 parliamentary elections and frustration connected with potential uncertainties. The paper states that many voters perhaps did not understand the function and position of local self-administration bodies, identifying them with national committees which existed up to now. It concludes that relatively a high percentage of citizens not participating in the elections is a warning for politicians to correct their ideas on settling social problems.

Federal Govèrnment Minister for Economic Strategy Pavol Hoffmann said in the Public against Violence daily "VEREJNOST" that if Czechoslovakia started implementing unrealistic social changes it would be to the detriment of the people. Besides, the transition to a market economy would be blocked. He said he is convinced that it would be better if Czechoslovakia succeeded in implementing a rapid transition to the market economy with its subsequent effects than if it were a long-term process.

Havel Votes in Prague 6 District 24 Nov

LD2411145590 Prague CTK in English 1336 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Prague/Bratislava Nov 24 (CTK)—The local elections should dismantle the former power structures on the local level and launch a new stage in the construction of a democratic state, Czechoslovak Prime Minister Marian Calfa told CTK when he came to the polls in the Prague 6 District today.

In the Slovak capital, Bratislava, Federal Assembly (parliament) Chairman Alexander Dubcek told Helene Lund of Denmark, a member of a Council of Europe delegation, he was happy that representatives of the Council were present for the elections. He noted that the work of the national committees, former bodies of local government, had been inefficient and said he believed that the new candidates were prepared for their work which would not be easy.

In Prague, President Vaclav Havel too noted how much work the local government would face in this city which is in disrepair. He said it should have a single program, just as most world cities, and a strong central representation with sufficient powers. (Many districts and areas in the capital have demanded great autonomy over local affairs.) Havel noted that a problem in the voting in big cities was that people did not know their candidates.

According to reports on yesterday's turnout in Slovakia, some 39 per cent out of 3,653,590 registered voters came to the polls on the first day of the elections, Friday [23 Nov]. In Bratislava it was only 24 per cent.

Civic Forum Leading in Czech Local Elections

LD2511201890 Prague CTK in English 1949 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 25 (CTK)—First estimates of results in the local elections make the Civic Forum the winner with 31.6 percent of the mandates, the communists and the Czechoslovak People's Party sharing the second place with 15.8 per cent each in the Czech Republic.

Independent candidates won 26.6 per cent of the seats.

The Czechoslovak Agrarian Party gained 4.7 per cent.

The rest of the mandates will be shared by the Moravian Self-Government Democracy Movement, the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party, the Socialist Party, the Greens and the Social Democrats but neither of them will have more than two per cent.

These are only first estimates of the results

First Elections Since Revolution Begin in Slovakia

LD2311234290 Prague CTK in English 1247 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 23 (CTK)—From 2.00 p.m. until 10.00 p.m. today and from 7.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. tomorrow the polls will be open for the first local elections in Slovakia since the revolution one year ago.

3,662,650 voters in the Slovak Republic will choose from altogether 80,101 candidates running for a total of 38,806 seats in the municipalities of 2,830 towns and villages. They will elect their mayors at the same time.

Voters in the Czech Republic will go to the polls tomorrow from 8.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. to elect representatives to the municipalities. Unlike in Slovakia, mayors in the Czech Republic will be elected at a later date.

In addition to independent candidates, some 56 parties and movements, combining to form a total of 169 various coalitions, will participate in the Slovak elections. Parties campaigning alone (not as part of a coalition) in some communities include the Slovak Communist Party (in 37), the Christian-Democratic Movement (37), the Public Against Violence movement (36), the nationalist Slovak National Party (36), and the Democratic Party (36). Pre-election surveys show Public Against Violence, the Christian-Democratic Movement, and the Slovak National Party as the favourites.

Initial results of the local elections may be known two hours after the polls close. With the exception of Bratislava and Kosice, preliminary results will be issued on Monday, November 26 and the final results should be available on Wednesday afternoon.

In a survey conducted from November 12 to November 19, the Slovak Statistical Office in Bratislava found that 59 per cent of those quesitoned were going to vote, 23 per cent were as yet undecided, and 18 per cent would not go to the polls.

Christian Democrats Gain 27.4 Percent

LD2511222290 Prague CTK in English 2001 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Bratislava Nov 25 (CTK)—The Christian Democratic Movement gained 27.4 per cent of seats on the local government in this weekend's elections in Slovakia, according to first preliminary results.

The Public Against Violence, winner in the parliamentary elections last June, won 20.4 per cent, followed by communists with 13.6 per cent.

Candidates who declared no party membership and independents gained a total of 12.8 votes.

The coexistence (Egy: Utteles) Movement gained 6.3 per cent.

The following were the Slovak National Party with 3.2 per cent, the Farmers Movement with 3.1, the Hungarian Christian Democratic Movement 3.0 and the Democratic Party with 2.3 per cent.

The Greens gained 452 seats against 10,564 of the Christian Democratic Movement, the Romanies Civic Initiative gained 63 and the Independent Erotic Initiative one seat.

Preliminary results of the elections to the local government in the Slovak Republic:

	Number of seats gained [as received]	Per cent
Christian Democratic Movement	10,564	27.4
Public Against Violence	7,844	20.4
Communist Party	5,252	13.6
Without party membership	3,236	8.4
Egy: Utteles (Coexistence) Movement	2,416	6.3
Independent candidates	1,702	4.4
Slovak National Party		3.2
Farmers Movement		3.1
Democratic Party		2.3
Greens Party	452	
Romanies Civic Initiative	63	
Independent Erotic Initiative	1	

Three Prime Ministers To Discuss Conflicts

LD2511153290 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1500 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] According to information from circles close to the Federal Government, the prime ministers of all three governments will meet at the beginning of next week, probably in Prague. They will be considering the clarification of remaining problems in the preparation of independent state budgets for the republics and the Federation. This was confirmed by Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar in yesterday's television news. As he said, at the meeting the government will attempt to do away with existing points of conflict.

Dubcek Holds Talks With Trade Union President

LD2411180190 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1600 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Federal Assembly Chairman Alexander Dubcek met Roman Kovac, president of the Czech and Slovak Confederation of Trade Unions, in Bratislava today.

The trade unionists briefed him about demands concerning the bills put forward—above all a government bill on the amendment of the Labor Code, the final draft of which will be the subject of further talks.

Alexander Dubcek expressed conviction that the trade unions play an irreplaceable role in the pluralistic political system.

Kanis Says Property Law Anti-Constitutional

AU2111141590 Prague CTK in English 1854 GMT 19 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 19 (CTK)— Czechoslovak Communist Party Federal Council Chairman Pavol Kanis told

journalists here today that the party expected its property will be expropriated on the basis of political agreement.

Kanis said that he views the form of the law and the way of its adoption as an anti-constitutional move. The law was approved by the Federal Assembly (parliament) on November 16. Under it, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is to return its property to the people of Czechoslovakia.

Asked what property will be left to the party after the expropriation, parliament deputy for the party Josef Mecl said that the total value cannot be translated into figures.

In parliament, Deputy Prime Minister Pavel Rychetsky said on Friday that in the last twenty years alone (the party was in power for over 40 years), direct subsidies from the state totalled 5,600 million crowns and indirect subsidies 26,000 million crowns.

Party representatives challenged at the press conference the claim that the draft bill was debated in parliamentary committees. According to them, Friday's plenary session was submitted an entirely new wording which was discussed in the legal committees only. On Friday, the deputies were acquainted with the bill a mere three hours in advance and a number of ministers did not allegedly see the last draft at all.

Journalists were also informed of the Moscow meeting of left-wing parties from Eastern Europe last week part in which was taken also by a Czechoslovak Communist Party delegation. In addition to the parties' situation, the delegations also spoke about changes in Eastern Europe and the future of left wing forces, united Germany, developments towards integrated Europe, and the danger of destabilization in Eastern Europe.

The journalists were told that the post-communist parties agreed that they want to fulfill the ideas of socialism which do not differ much from social democracy in the West.

Former CSFR Industry Ministers in Custody

AU1911143090 Prague CTK in English 1546 GMT 16 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 16 (CTK)—Two former Czech Ministers of Industry, Miroslav Kapoun and Petr Hojer, have been taken into custody, the municipal Prosecutor's Office in Prague informed CTK today but declined to give any details about the charges.

Kapoun was minister from 1981 to 1986 when he was succeeded by Hojer who was minister till June 27, 1990.

Poll Shows Citizens Trust State Officials

AU2511184090 Prague CTK in English 2144 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 20 (CTK)— A total of 54 percent of the Slovak citizens trust the Federal Government, (39 percent mistrust it), 64 percent trust the president (34 mistrust him) and 51 percent trust the Federal Assembly (parliament) (44 percent mistrust it), according to a poll conducted among 715 citizens throughout Czechoslovakia.

The poll carried out by the Institute for the Research of Public Opinion at the turn of October and November 1990 further showed that the Czechoslovak president was the most trusted in the whole of Czechoslovakia, (78 percent) just as he was in the first half of 1990, (84 percent in the Czech Republic, 64 percent in the Slovak Republic), 71 percent trust the republic governments (69 percent, 75 percent), 66 percent trust the Federal Government (71 percent, 54 percent), the Czech and Slovak National Council (parliaments) 59 percent (the Czech parliament 64 percent in the Czech Republic, the Slovak parliament 49 percent in the Slovak Republic), and the Federal Assembly (Federal parliament) 56 percent (58 percent in the Czech Republic and 51 percent in the Slovak Republic). The Slovak Government was the most trusted in Slovakia in September, October and November, the Czechoslovak president was second, according to the poll, followed by the Federal Government, the Slovak National Council and the Federal Assembly. The trust in the Slovak National Council dropped at the turn of October and November apparently due to controversies following the debate over the language law in Slovakia.

The institute also conducted a survey of trust or mistrust given to Czechoslovak politicians. Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel was the most trusted (45 percent of the polled in November compared with 43 percent in September). The number of votes expressing mistrust in the president dropped during these two months from 5 to 4 percent.

Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar has strengthened his position considerably as trust in him increased from 7 to 13 percent (39 percent in November in Slovakia).

Czechoslovak Minister of Finance Vaclav Klaus "placed" first among the politicians who are not trusted (13 percent mistrusted him, 9 percent in the Czech Republic, 21 percent in the Slovak Republic). Klaus is followed by former first secretary of the Communist Party Vasil Mohorita with 10 percent (13 percent in the Czech Republic) and Vitazoslav Moric, the controversial leader of the radical Slovak National Party (6 percent in the Czech Republic, 12 percent in the Slovak Republic).

Czechs, Slovaks Differ in Klaus' Assessment

AU2311170490 Prague CTK in English 1047 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 21 (CTK)— As many as 70 per cent of people in Czechoslovakia expect the election of Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus as Civic Forum chairman last October 13 to give him great support for his program of economic reform, according to a public opinion poll conducted at the turn of October and November.

The reaction to Klaus' election differed markedly in the two republics, Czech and Slovak. Only every tenth person questioned in Slovakia was happy about it, 32 per

cent were dissatisfied, and 57 per cent did not know. In the Czech Republic 42 per cent were satisfied, 21 per cent were not, and 37 per cent were undecided.

The Civic Forum is the largest political movement in the country but it is active almost exclusively in the Czech speaking part of the state, twice as large as Slovakia which has its own civic movement, the Public Against Violence. Its position is not as strong as that of the Civic Forum in Bohemia and Moravia.

Klaus was also described as a supporter of strong authorities for the Federal Government during the debates on power-sharing. He is ranked among the least popular politicians in Slovakia. In Bohemia and Moravia the reactions are mixed, some people disliking him while others regarding him as one of the most trustworthy after President Vaclav Havel.

In the poll, conducted among 717 people, the majority believes that Klaus will give a more clear-cut form and program to the Civic Forum, which has so far operated as an umbrella group for various views without a clearly defined membership.

53 per cent in the Czech Republic but only 36 per cent in Slovakia trust Klaus not to abuse his combined power as Civic Forum chairman and Czechoslovak finance minister. 48 per cent in Slovakia and 26 per cent in the Czech Republic think the combination of the two offices may pose this danger.

Klaus Holds News Conference on Economic Situation

LD2111234790 Prague CTK in English 1628 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 21 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus said at a press conference here today that price liberalization does not mean price arbitrariness, adding that the planned regulation will only supplement, not replace the market mechanism.

Prices will be liberalized in Czechoslovakia from January 1, 1991. State regulation of prices will affect mainly monopoly manufacturers and will help ease the impact of the price decontrol on the social sphere.

Speaking about main points of Czechoslovakia's economic strategy next year, Minister Klaus said that priority must be given not to economic growth, but to strengthening of the internal balance.

According to Klaus, it will not be possible to maintain a positive economic growth, especially with regard to the development of Czechoslovakia's economic relations with foreign countries. About 20 per cent of export revenues are to be earmarked for repaying foreign debt.

Minister Klaus said that the private sector will be a stabilizing factor, but its results will not influence the overall macro-economic situation.

The rate of inflation will be influenced to a great degree by external circumstances, Klaus said voicing the view that it could be single-digit.

Finance Minister Explains State Price Regulation

LD2211133590 Prague CTK in English 1744 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 20 (CTK)—State regulation of prices, which will be liberalized in Czechoslovakia from January 1, 1991, will affect mainly monopoly manufacturers and will help ease the impact of the liberalization on the social sphere, Czechoslovak Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus declared today.

In a statement given to CTK, Minister Klaus explained that the transition to world prices in trade with countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance will create pressure for raising prices, with the monopoly structure of the Czechoslovak industry and the existence of ineffective branches adding to this pressure. In expectation of this, some enterprises have been coming up with plans for excessive rises in prices of their products from next January. However, these trends will be countered by restrictive credit and financial policies but immediately after the prices are liberalized; similar attempts will be hindered by regulation of prices, under a bill on prices now under debate in parliament. The bill expects prices to be set on the market but at the same time gives the government the power to regulate price movements, as regards both selected goods or services and the intensity of checking development of prices in a certain period of time. The bill provides for the existence of officially set maximum prices, the regulation of prices according to specific circumstances (mainly as permitted reaction to changes in costs) and regulation of prices for a certain period of time. These legitimate chances will be used to the full at the beginning of 1991, Klaus said, adding that the significance of the prices regulation will be gradually declining but in the period following transition to the liberalization of prices must help slow down movement in the prices level.

The intensive use of regulation instruments will mean that the immediate impact of world prices on the economy at the start of 1991 will be spread out over a certain period of time, Klaus said.

Government Announces Energy Plant Scale Down

LD2211215390 Prague CTK in English 2033 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 22 (CTK)—Eleven pits with the highest losses are to be closed down in the first stage of changes in the coal mining industry in Czechoslovakia by 1992, Economics Minister Vladimir Dlouhy told journalists after a regular session of the cabinet today. The closures will concern some 9,500 workers.

Dlouhy described the scale-down as moderate, especially because the nuclear power industry was lagging behind schedules and problems continued with the Gabcikovo

Water and Energy project on the Danube where both Czechoslovakia and Hungary have suspended work.

Dlouhy also announced the shut-down of seven energy units at the thermal power stations in Tusimice, Prunerov and Tisova in North Bohemia with the total capacity of 750 megawatts, by the end of this year, provided energy from other sources is ensured as expected. More shut-downs are planned by 1995.

Reporting on the cabinet's debate of the Czechoslovak economic strategy over the next two years of transition to a market economy, Strategic Planning Minister Pavel Hoffmann said that the basic aim is to "push through the reform amid any constellation of domestic and external conditions." He described availability of energy sources and the possibility to market Czechoslovak products in the countries of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union as crucial for the transition. Analyses are also made for unfavourable options which would bring more currency devaluation, economic decline, unemployment and unfavourable social impacts.

Labour and Social Affairs Minister Petr Miller informed the government of a draft under which miners who have worked underground in excess of the permitted limit be enabled to retire at 50.

The cabinet lifted a ban on the import of cars older than six years while banning the import of cars with two-stroke engines. Only technical tests will be decisive for a car to be permitted for registration.

New Slovak Interior Minister Appointed

LD2211215190 Prague CTK in English 1920 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Bratislava Nov 22 (CTK)—The Slovak National Council (parliament) today appointed Ladislav Pittner new minister of the interior of the Slovak Republic.

Former Minister Anton Andras, nominated by his Christian-Democratic Movement (KDH), resigned on November 2 after his dismissal had been demanded by Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar, who accused the minister of incompetence. Meciar represents the Public Against Violence movement (VPN) and the row between two movements of the ruling coalition over the resignation threatened to cause a government crisis in Slovakia. Andras was then elected KDH deputy chairman.

Pittner, 54, a lieutenant-colonel and graduate of the faculty of management of the School of Economics in Bratislava, has been deputy director of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution and Democracy of the Federal Interior Ministry since last September 15.

Pittner was imprisoned under the communist regime in the 1950's on charges of anti-state activity and espionage. He graduated in 1970 and five years later obtained a doctors' degree.

In 1968 he co-founded a religious group and helped to organize dialogue with atheists. In the last 16 years Pittner was involved in work aimed at informing the world of the unlawful activities of the communist regime against believers and dissenters. He was not a member of any political party.

In the first days after the start of public protests in November 1989 he co-founded a VPN branch at the Institute of the Economy and Organization of Management in the building industry where he had been employed since the 1970's and became its chairman. Later he worked in the KDH scientists and educationists section.

Meciar's 'Outbreak of Polemics' Reported

AU2311161590

[Editorial Report] Slovak newspapers on 20 and 21 November devote attention to the latest outbreak of polemics between Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar and Jozef Markus, chairman of the Slovak National Heritage Foundation.

Bratislava VEREJNOST in Slovak on 20 November, in its report on the 19 November session of the Slovak National Council on pages 1 and 2, carries a 200-word statement made by Vladimir Meciar in the debate. Responding to the accusation raised by a deputy that he, Meciar, had contributed to the escalation of the situation over the language issue by his attacks on the Slovak National Heritage Foundation and Jozef Markus, its chairman, Meciar said: "I heard here that Mr. Markus is a representative of the Slovak nation. And this Slovak National Council and you, its deputies, are representatives of what? Who has the right to pass resolutions and make decisions in the name of this nation? Markus by his statements or you by your decisions and standpoints? Do you not feel offended when someone puts one person above your entire institution, above the government, and other legal bodies? By the way, since we are talking about Mr. Markus and are making him a hero at all possible levels. If Mr. Markus were to act honestly and morally, he would have to explain why he could not be a member of this government, why he went to Prague to take the oath as member of the Federal Government but had to leave again because he could not become a member of that government either. Did today's honorary chairman of the Slovak National Heritage Foundation become involved in politics to fix what he once [presumably as deputy prime minister of the Slovak Government of "national consensus" prior to the June parliamentary elections] botched up? These things should be known to the public and Jozef Markus should speak about them honestly and candidly."

Bratislava SMENA in Slovak on 20 November on page 1 publishes a 150-word interview with Vladimir Meciar by an "rk"-signed SMENA correspondent, held in Bratislava on 19 November. Asked to clarify his accusations of Jozef Markus raised in the Slovak parliament, Meciar replies that it is up to Jozef Markus to tell the public "the reasons for his absence in the Slovak and Federal Governments." Asked whether he knows the reasons, Meciar replies: "I think so."

Bratislava SMENA in Slovak on 21 November on pages 1 and 2 carries a 250-word statement by Jozef Markus, chairman of the Slovak National Heritage Foundation, made in response to a SMENA question on 20 November. Asked to comment on Vladimir Meciar's statement in parliament, Markus says: "I have no reason to hide anything. I was to be chairman of the Office for the Protection of Competition in the Federal Government, provided that the office would be set up in Bratislava. Later, following an agreement with the Christian Democratic Movement, a different concept was chosen. Other claims, such as that I wanted to become Slovak prime minister, are contradicted by evident facts." Markus adds that he regrets Meciar's attitude because he still regards him as a friend and wishes him success in his work.

Slovaks Suspend Hunger Strike Over Language Law

AU2111142190 Prague CTK in English 2118 GMT 19 Nov 90

[Text] Bratislava Nov 19 (CTK)— Eleven Slovaks today suspended their hunger strike held in protest against the law on Slovak approved by the Slovak parliament on October 25, 1990, after their talks with Slovak First Deputy Prime Minister Jan Carnogursky.

The number of the Slovaks on strike had decreased from about 40 to the present 11. Many of them ended their strike because of their poor condition.

In line with mutual agreement, a public discussion on the law on Slovak is to take place on Slovak television in the nearest future.

Within a month at the latest, after 500,000 signatures of Slovaks who do not agree with the October 25 law on Slovak are obtained, an experts' commission of the Slovak cultural institution "Matica Slovenska" would draft a new bill on Slovak and submit it to the Slovak parliament. In case it is not passed by the parliament, Matica Slovenska will propose a referendum on the language law, Jan Carnogursky said. The law allows ethnic minorities to use their mother tongues in official contacts, while Matica Slovenska calls for "Slovak without exception."

The hunger strike started on October 25. It was suspended on November 1 reconciliation day (public holiday in Slovakia) until November 8. The strike will finally end after the commitments agreed today between the strikers and the Slovak first deputy prime minister are fulfilled.

Havel, Mazowiecki Discuss Crown-Zloty Exchange

LD2011120390 Prague CTK in English 1455 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Paris Nov 20 (CTK)—Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel told Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki here today that the introduction of the crown's internal convertibility on January 1, 1990 [as received] will clear the way for full opening of the border with Poland.

Vaclav Havel, Prime Minister Marian Calfa and Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier, attending the summit of the state-participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), met here today with Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki and Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski.

The full opening of the Czechoslovak-Polish border has thus far been postponed since Czechoslovakia fears that the existing crown-zloty exchange rate which does not reflect the reality would cause massive buying up of goods in Czechoslovakia.

Czechoslovak presidential spokesman Michael Zantovsky told CTK here that the Czechoslovak leaders hold the view that once the convertibility of the crown is introduced and prices in Czechoslovakia come close to those in the world, the reasons for curbing tourism between the two countries will disappear.

Havel and Mazowiecki also discussed the gradual self-dismantling of the Warsaw Pact and hope it will be finished soon.

President Havel also informed the Polish prime minister of Czechoslovakia's decision to discontinue the construction of the coke plant at Stonava, North Moravia, situated near the Polish border and strongly criticized by the Poles for ecological reasons.

According to Zantovsky, the two statesmen also discussed humanitarian questions related to the expected influx of refugees from Eastern Europe who may be leaving their homes because of economic and other problems once they are given the right to free travel.

Calfa Meets With Gonzalez on Economic Relations

LD2011123290 Prague CTK in English 1027 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Paris Nov 20 (CTK correspondent)— Czechoslovak Prime Minister Marian Calfa said at a meeting with his Spanish counterpart Felipe Gonzalez here last night the two countries' politial relations are excellent, but economic cooperation is inadequate.

Calfa called for Spanish industrialists' participation in modernization of the Czechoslovak economy.

Gonzalez favoured Czechoslovakia's plans to develop cooperation with Spanish regions, especially in the spheres of trade, culture, education and others.

The Spanish prime minister accepted Calfa's invitation to pay an official visit to Czechoslovakia in the first half of next year.

Calfa and Gonzalez are currently in Paris as members of their countries' delegations to the summit meeting of the states-participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Calfa Comments on 'Elf Aquitaine' Realtionship

AU2111141390 Prague CTK in English 1923 GMT 19 Nov 90

[Text] Paris Nov 19 (CTK correspondent) The French oil company "Elf Aquitaine" is a reliable partner for Czechoslovakia in its current situation as it may help supply mainly oil and oil products to it, Czechoslovak Prime Minister Marian Calfa told CTK here today.

Calfa, who held talks with the president of this company today, said that construction of oil storage tanks in Czechoslovakia in harmony with Elf's technology seems to be feasible. He said both sides agreed on possible deliveries of Soviet oil extracted by the company in the future. Under discussion were possibilities of joint investments in the construction of the Adria oil pipeline. Elf would help Czechoslovakia find the direction from which oil supplies would be most efficient, Calfa said, adding that he is satisfied as his today's meeting yielded concrete results.

Calfa is a member of the Czechoslovak delegation to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) signatories summit which is currently held here. The delegation is headed by Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel and includes also Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier.

Gorbachev Explains Cancelled Meeting to Havel

AU2211230190 Prague CTK in English 1603 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Paris Nov 20 (CTK correspondent)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev told his Czechoslovak counterpart Vaclav Havel at the CSCE meeting here today that the scheduled meeting with the Czechoslovak president was not cancelled for political reasons, Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister Zdenek Matejka has told CTK.

Gorbachev who met Havel directly in the negotiating hall of the Paris meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe this morning responded to Havel's question whether the scheduled meeting was cancelled for organizational or political reasons. Gorbachev said that he canceled five more prepared meetings and added that he would like to meet the Czechoslovak president soon.

Havel Receives Simon Bolivar Prize in Paris

LD2211233290 Prague CTK in English 1514 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Paris Nov 21 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel who headed a Czechoslovak delegation at the Paris CSCE summit took over the International Simon Bolivar Prize from UNESCO'S Director-General Federico Mayor here today.

UNESCO awards the prize every two years to personalities who have contributed with their life and work to the freedom and dignity of people and nations and to the cementing of international solidarity.

Dienstbier Attends CSCE Seminar in Brussels

LD2311234490 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1100 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Czechoslovak Foreign Affairs Minister Jiri Dienstbier attended a seminar in Brussels today on the topic of the institutionalization of the CSCE conference. In the discussion with the representatives of Belgian political life, Jiri Dienstbier reaffirmed Czechoslovakia's desire to enhance the role of the conference and Prague's interest in becoming a residence of its permanent secretariat.

CTK Examines Recent Relations With USSR

LD2011202690 Prague CTK in English 1459 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov (CTK)—As Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has cancelled his scheduled meeting with Vaclav Havel in Paris, the two leaders will not be able to discuss a number of issues in Czechoslovak-Soviet relations, including the rescheduling of a planned Warsaw Pact summit on the liquidation of the treaty's military structure.

Havel's opinion is that eventually both the Warsaw Pact and NATO will cease to exist as military blocs, a view he expressed at a meeting of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee in Moscow on June 6 and 7. A Warsaw Pact summit was then set for November 3 in Budapest, at which the leaders of the six Warsaw Pact states were to sign a document providing for the dissolution of the Pact's military arrangements. When the Soviet Union asked to postpone the summit, due to domestic and international political problems, Havel insisted that the Political Consultative Committee meet again before the end of 1990.

On his first visit to the Soviet Union as president, last February 26 and 27, Havel stressed the fundamental internal political changes that had occurred in Czechoslovakia and the significance of those changes for its international status: namely, its newly regained sovereignty and independence vis-a-vis the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia's biggest trading partner, is its greatest debtor as well. Next year's debt is expected to be in excess of 700,000 freely convertible rubles. The decreased supply of oil from the Soviet Union, combined with its increased price as a result of the Persian Gulf crisis, have had a marked effect on the Czechoslovak economy, making the resolution of the Soviet debt a crucial issue.

Both Czecoslovak Prime Minister Marian Calfa (on October 30) and Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus (on November 15 and 16) have been to Moscow to negotiate the payment of the debt, along with other issues of the structure of Czechoslovak-Soviet trade, but many issues remain unresolved.

USSR Seen as Complicating Foreign Trade

AU2111141790 Prague CTK in English 2121 GMT 19 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 19 (CTK) The current situation of the Czechoslovak foreign trade is complicated especially

because the country is so dependent on supplies of Soviet raw materials so far, First Deputy Federal Minister of Foreign Trade Jiri Brabec and four other deputy ministers told journalists here today.

They added that talks with Soviets are so difficult because the issue of power-sharing in the USSR has not been resolved yet.

Commenting on the future of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance they said there is no prospect of any common market of the council's members. They said that much effort has been devoted to prevent total failure of trade among these countries.

The officials added that the volume of Czechoslovakia's imports surpassed exports during the first nine months of this year by 5,000 million crowns. The growth was speeded up considerably in August and September. However, after the devaluation of the Czechoslovak crown exports are now increasing more rapidly than imports. The most-favored-nation clause granted to Czechoslovakia by the United States recently is expected to provide for tripling the mutual exchange of goods within two years.

As to the gradual deregulation of foreign trade the officials said some 3,000 corporations are authorized to trade with other countries at present.

Asked about the future of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade they said that an optimal institutional set-up is being sought. They said that the post of minister of foreign trade should exist with regard to the other countries in the period of carrying out the economic reform. The post of minister is likely to be filled only after the issue of power-sharing is resolved, the officials said.

Soviet Troop Withdrawal From Slovakia in Progress

LD2111132790 Prague CTK in English 2328 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Bratislava Nov 20 (CTK)—Two trains, each consisting of 35 wagons fully loaded with Soviet military equipment, left Komarno, south Slovakia, for the USSR this evening.

Some 800 Soviet Army soldiers and officers are to leave the town after withdrawal of ammunition and military hardware is completed.

Major General Gennadiy Propashchev, the deputy chief of staff of the central group of Soviet troops, told CTK today that some 62 per cent of the Soviet soldiers and officers have left Czechoslovakia until today and 80 per cent of the tanks, all helicopters and approximately 70 per cent of hardware were withdrawn. The last Soviet soldier should leave Slovakia before Christmas.

Hungarian, Interior Ministers on Border Protection

AU2311160290 Prague CTK in English 2051 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 21 (CTK)— Hungarian Interior Minister Balazs Horvath ended his visit to Czechoslovakia and left for home today.

At talks with Czechoslovak Interior Minister Jan Langos earlier in the day, they positively evaluated cooperation in the protection of state borders, border traffic control, and observance of border traffic rules. The ministers also discussed the reorganization of the two countries' border guards and agreed on the necessity to draft new documents on their activity.

Czechoslovakia and Hungary consider it necessary to join efforts mainly in the case of the influx of foreigners or their illegal stays on these countries' territories. Both ministers agreed to inform their colleagues in Poland and Austria of these problems.

The Czechoslovak interior minister today left for Poland for talks with his Polish colleague Krysztof Kozlowski on cooperation in the protection of state borders, the problem of refugees, and police cooperation in a drive against organized international crime and drug traffic.

Slovak, Vojvodina Officials View Trade Exchange

AU2311160490 Prague CTK in English 1713 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Bratislava Nov 21 (CTK) — Slovak Parliament First Deputy Chairman Ivan Carnogursky and President of Yugoslavia's Vojvodina Province Presidency Jugoslav Kostic said here today that the trade turnover between Vojvodina and Czechoslovakia, which totals some 45 million dollars a year, can be at least doubled in the future.

At a meeting with a visiting Yugoslav trade delegation, the Slovak official said that a new law on the division of powers, which already passed through the Slovak parliament, enables the Slovak Republic to be directly incorporated in international economic relations. Under the law contracts and agreements can be concluded by individual enterprises, he said and added that this is the reason why the Yugoslav delegation had arrived in Czechoslovakia. A contractual exhibition of the Agrovojvodina Export Import in Novi Sad is currently taking place in Czechoslovakia. Head of the Yugoslav delegation Kostic said he noticed that Slovakia and Czechoslovakia are in need of foodstuffs. Vojvodina has surplus food and can supply it in exchange for engineering industry products and chemicals which are sufficient in Czechoslovakia, Kostic said.

Havel Pays Three-Day Visit to Switzerland

AU2311160890 Prague CTK in English 1924 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 21 (CTK) — Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel left here tonight for a three-day official working visit to Switzerland.

He is accompanied by Czechoslovak Deputy Chairman [title as received] and Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier and Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus.

Vaclav Havel will visit three cities: Bern, Zurich and Geneva. He will meet with Swiss President Arnold Koller, deputies to the Swiss Federal Assembly, Czech and Slovak expatriates, and Swiss personalities who contributed to the democratic development in Czechoslovakia. He will also visit Czechoslovakia's permanent mission at the United Nations in Geneva.

Returns From Visit

LD2311204190 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Republic President Vaclav Havel ended his official visit to Switzerland today. A special plane with Czechoslovak representatives on board landed at Ruzyne Airport in Prague shortly after 1820.

Argentine Trade Delegation Arrives

AU2311160690 Prague CTK in English 1756 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 21 (CTK)— An Argentine delegation which arrived here today intends to hold talks on particular possibilities of cooperation in agriculture, leather manufacturing and car industry and possibilities of Argentine financial and other institutions being represented in Czechoslovakia.

The delegation consisting of some thirty representatives of leading Argentine trade and industrial enterprises headed by Eduardo Cesar Angeloz, the governor of the province Cordoba, intends also to extend the trade exchange by particular commodities and to establish direct contacts here.

The trade exchange between the two countries totalled 74.8 million dollars in the past year, while Czechoslovak exports represented 44.8 million dollars. The volume of mutual trade exchange amounted to 45.9 million dollars during the nine months of this year, while Czechoslovakia's exports totalled 21.5 million dollars in this period.

Vales Heads Economic Delegation Visiting PRC

LD2211214890 Prague CTK in English 2016 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Prague Nov 22 (CTK)—A delegation led by Czechoslovak Deputy Prime Minister Vaclav Vales flew to Beijing this evening for the 6th meeting of the Czechoslovak-Chinese Commission on Economic, Trade and Technological Cooperation.

The purpose of this trip is to conclude negotiations on the 1991 protocol for the Czechoslovak-Chinese agreement, Vales told a CTK correspondent. Another goal is to settle this year's trade balance, which is not in Czechoslovakia's favour, in a way that will allow us to pay in goods, rather than in convertible currency, he said.

The current turnover in trade is roughly 1,000 million Swiss francs for each side and the Czechoslovak trade deficit currently stands at around $100-120 million. While China has fulfilled its deliveries of consumer goods and cotton, it has refused to purchase metallurgical materials as well as other Czechoslovak products because of their high price.

Also on the agenda at the negotiations will be a program for the growth of Czechoslovak-Chinese economic relations, including a new role for enterprises in that context. "We would like China to make up next year for the markets that we are for various reasons losing elsewhere," commented Vales.

Czechoslovakia was among the first states which established diplomatic relations with people's China shortly after its foundation in 1949. Advantageous cooperation which was quite intensive in the 1950's, started to stagnate at the beginning of the 1960's. The complex situation in China at that time, especially during the "Cultural Revolution," found reflection also in the foreign policy. Relations were revived only in the 1970's and especially at the beginning of the 1980's.

The delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Vaclav Vales is the first at the governmental level to go to China since the November 1989 velvet revolution which toppled the totalitarian regime in Czechoslovakia.

Development of relations, new prospects for which were opened up by the big changes taking place in Czechoslovakia, i.e. building plurality democracy and transition to a market economy, was discussed in China by Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel's economy and ecology adviser Richard Wagner last June.

On September 28, Czechoslovak Deputy Prime Minister Vaclav Vales and Chinese Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Minister Zheng Tuobin signed in Prague a trade agreement which will take effect on January 1, 1991.

Under the agreement, both sides will actively support long-term, permanent and stable development of trade relations. It contains a provision on mutual granting the most-favoured-nation clause.

Czechoslovakia is one of China's biggest trade partners in Eastern Europe. China, being in the first dozen of Czechoslovakia's biggest trade partners, stands before France and Britain. In 1989, the two countries' trade amounted to 1,100 million Swiss francs while exports and imports were balanced.

Czechoslovakia now supplies to China Liaz lorries, aircraft engines, turbo-compressors, and others. It imports from China textile products, footwear, electronical devices, rice, cotton and pharmaceuticals. Chinese shipyards build sea-going vessels for Czechoslovakia.

NATO's Woerner Continues Official Visit

Holds Talks With Jeszenszky

LD2311115890 Budapest MTI in English 1023 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Budapest, November 22 (MTI)—Manfred Woerner, NATO secretary-general currently paying an official visit to Hungary, held talks with Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky on Thursday [22 November], shortly after his arrival in Budapest.

The two politicians surveyed various aspects of the situation of East Central Europe. In view of the current, chaotic state of the region, they agreed that economic stabilization was top priority. The Hungarian hosts were glad to say that although economic issues were not the primary preoccupation of NATO, the secretary-general was of one mind with the Hungarians, placing a premium on the need to cure the ailing economy.

As far as the relationship between Hungary and NATO is concerned, Manfred Woerner reaffirmed that NATO viewed Hungary neither as an enemy nor as an adversary. On the contrary, it has a sympathetic approach to this country and seeks to foster its relations on this basis.

On this score, Janos Herman, spokesman for foreign affairs, told MTI that the institutionalization of relations between Hungary and NATO had not been raised during the talks.

Speaks on Europe's Future

LD2311120690 Budapest MTI in English 1025 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Budapest, November 22 (MTI)—"NATO's vision is of a Europe in which military aggression or threat would become materially impossible and politically meaningless." Such was the keynote of the speech delivered by NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner for members of the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committees of the Hungarian parliament on Thursday afternoon.

Woerner recalled that Hungary had played a key role in the historic changes in Europe over the past year and a half:

"The decision of Hungary in the late summer of 1989 to allow the East Germans to go to the West triggered the collapse of communist regimes in Central and, later, Eastern Europe. Hungary's brave decision accelerated this process and thus made it more peaceful than it might otherwise have been. You have earned the gratitude not only of the German people, but all Europeans," Woerner said.

"Therefore it is hardly surprising that Hungary has always been in the vanguard of what is often called 'the return to Europe'. The first to establish links with NATO and our parliamentary body, the North Atlantic assembly, the first to approach the European Community with a view to eventual membership, and the first of the Central and Eastern European countries to become a full member of the Council of Europe," the NATO secretary general said.

"Your government's dynamism in establishing intensive links with Western nations, and encouraging their industries and enterprises to come to Hungary, bodes well for your ultimate success. Moreover, the West's actions thus far demonstrate that you can count on our political support and concrete assistance," Woerner said.

"No nation these days can provide for its security alone or in isolation from its neighbours. Nations seeking total security by their own efforts only crease insecurity around them. So we must never 'renationalize' European security. On the contrary, real security can only be achieved through cooperation and sharing.

"My visit today symbolizes a new era, but it is also a concrete invitation to work together using our combined resources and ingenuity to create a new world. Hungary is a key partner in the building of a new Europe," Worner said.

Confers With Antall

LD2311172990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1600 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Prime Minister Jozsef Antall has urged that the countries of the Atlantic alliance lay down in a statement guarantees of Eastern European security; Antall said this when he was receiving NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner in his office. The NATO secretary general at the same time said that it would be wrong to speak of a power vacuum in the region owing to the cessation of the Warsaw Pact, because this only increases uncertainty.

The head of the Hungarian Ministry of Defense informed Woerner that Hungary will conclude bilateral agreements with the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, and Romania in the near future. According to Defense Minister Lajos Fur, similar agreements are necessary with the surrounding countries because after the cessation of the Warsaw Pact, this is how Hungary could ward off the danger of a possible unexpected attack. The defense minister mentioned during the discussion nationality differences as being among the most serious problems of the Eastern European region.

Promises Economic 'Help'

LD2311200390 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1830 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Hungary is not alone because our member states [of NATO] will extend help to overcome both economic and stabilization problems. This has been emphasized by NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner. [passage omitted] The secretary general emphasized during his talks with the prime minister that development of the region's states, including Hungary's, has reached a critical stage because she must solve her own economic and political problems. NATO and its

members take a share in this with pleasure, and I [Woerner] feel that it is their duty as well to maintain peace.

The secretary general also referred to Prime Minister Jozsef Antall as being a supporter of the Atlantic idea, but that he rejects views which contrast the cause of European unity and the Atlantic link. He also singled out the very significant initiative laying the foundation for the political cooperatioin of the CSFR, Poland, and Hungary.

Manfred Woerner met Defense Minister Lajos Fur and the NATO secretary general expounded that they did not wish to interfere with the Warsaw Pact, nor do they want to give advice to its members. Lajos Fur, on the other hand, summed up the sources of danger that may threaten the security of the region. He listed, in the first place, the tensions stemming from the mixed ethnicity of the regions, but added that the swelling of the refugee flood can be similarly dangerous. [passage omitted]

Geza Jeszenszky, speaking at the same news conference in the afternoon, said he very much hoped the assessment yesterday and today by the secretary general will be shared by the other countries of the world, including the Soviet Union.

Meets With Defense Minister

LD2311225690 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1300 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Prime Minister Jozsef Antall has received NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner in the parliament building. Woerner, who is visiting our country, then held an exchange of views with Defense Minister Lajos Fur. The secretary-general of the Western military bloc will meet with President Arpad Goncz in the afternoon, and he then will sum up the experiences of his visit to Hungary at a joint news conference with Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky.

Meets President Goncz in Assembly

LD2411115790 Budapest MTI in English 1029 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Budapest, November 23 [date as received] (MTI)—Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic of Hungary, met Manfred Woerner, NATO secretary general, in the parliament building on Friday afternoon [23 November].

The president pointed out that NATO had a great responsibility to bear for the security of the common Europe. Hungary may help to prevent Eastern Europe from becoming a crisis region, which is one of today's dangers, Goncz said. Among the causes of this danger, the president mentioned the unsettled situation of national minorities, and nationalism. The situation is complicated by the varying paces of political development in the countries of the region, and the accumulated social tensions. Under such circumstances, Western Europe cannot wait to grant assistance for too long, he said.

The sides exchanged views on the situation of the nationalities. The issue is not a special Hungarian problem, Goncz said, since there are Slovak, Croatian, German and other minorities, too, in the region. The Hungarians have initiated the joint formulation and acceptance of an international charter which would be verifiable and binding on all, and define the obligations of all countries.

It is an all-European interest that Poland should stabilize its situation and should not be isolated from the forums of European co-operation.

Woerner said that it would be incorrect to speak about an East Central Europe vacuum emerging in the wake of the dissolution of the Warsaw Treaty. This approach would create new factors of instability. Every effort should be made to establish a new security system which would replace the alliance which is being dissolved, he said.

After his talks with the prime minister, Woerner met Lajos Fur, minister of defence. The NATO secretary general said the North Atlantic alliance did not wish to interfere with the future of the Warsaw Treaty and give pieces of advice to the WTO [Warsaw Treaty Organization] member states. Nor has it in mind to divide them or play them off against one another, Woerner said.

Fur emphasized that in the wake of major cuts in the armed forces of the region, the number of personnel in the Hungarian Armed Forces would be reduced to 75,000. Hungary's military leadership is striving to establish a smaller but modern Army. However, the grave economic situation makes it impossible for the country to finance the establishment of an army of that kind from its own resources. The modernization of its air force would require particularly huge investments. Due to the dissolution of the Warsaw Treaty, Hungary seeks to conclude bilateral treaties so as to gradually establish a safety net around the country which would provide defence against any unexpected turn. Such treaties are to be concluded with the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Romania in the near future, Fur said.

In reply to a question by Woerner, Fur summed up the sources of danger that may put security at peril in the region. He mentioned first of all the tensions resulting from the mixed pattern of ethnic groups in the region and the difference between ethnic and political boundaries. The grave economic and social situation of the East Central European countries may also increase tension, for instance through an increasing flow of refugees.

Holds News Conference at End of Visit

LD2411121290 Budapest MTI in English 1037 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Budapest, November 23 (MTI)—NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner on Friday [23 November] held a press conference summing up the conclusions of his official visit to Hungary.

In his initial statement, Woerner termed it as of symbolic importance that a NATO secretary general now had the first opportunity to visit Hungary. The visit, he said, carries the message that the North Atlantic community if offering a helping hand to Hungary and co-operation in the construction of a new Europe. The time of confrontation has gone, the NATO secretary general said.

The visit also reflected the fact that Hungary was not left alone in its struggle for surmounting its economic difficulties and stabilizing democracy. The member states of the North Atlantic alliance will provide assistance in this effort, Woerner said.

Woerner said his talks in Hungary convinced him that the Hungarian leaders held the basic principles of the North Atlantic community, and the view that the institutionalization of the CSCE process, the European communities and the Council of Europe may play an important role in the establishment of a stable and secure Europe. The sides agreed that the Atlantic alliance had a fundamental role in guaranteeing stability in Europe.

NATO strives to establish new, lasting structures for co-operation in Europe, Woerner said. Among the various forms of strengthening co-operation, Woerner mentioned that he had invited Jozsef Antall to the Brussels session of the North Atlantic Council.

Hungarian Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky emphasized that Manfred Woerner's ideas were identical with the Hungarian position. Concerning European stability, Jeszenszky spoke emphatically about the situation of East Central Europe. He said Hungary was aware of its responsibility for preserving stability in the region and endeavoured to strengthen dialogue and co-operation with its neighbours.

Communique Issued on Visit

LD2411121690 Budapest MTI in English 1046 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Budapest, November 23 (MTI)—The government spokesman's office on Friday [24 November] issued a communique on the meeting of Prime Minister Jozsef Antall and NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner.

The open, cordial talks focused on European security. In Woerner's view, European security is appropriately guaranteed by the stipulations laid down in the Helsinki Final Act and other documents of the CSCE process, and by a network of bilateral and multilateral co-operation the establishment of which has recently been initiated between East Central Europe and Western Europe. The parties agreed that both Hungary and NATO are endeavouring to maintain good and decent relations with the Soviet Union, since the construction of a new Europe would be inconceivable without Soviet participation.

Woerner pointed out that security was not only a military but also an economic and social issue. Since the economic problems may entail consequences of a political and security nature, the West has a vested interest in promoting economic recovery in the East Central European region. The phenomena of economic crisis must not be allowed to undermine the new democratic systems.

Manfred Woerner forwarded to Jozsef Antall an invitation by the North Atlantic Council to deliver a speech on the domestic and foreign policy of his country.

Government Spokesman Views Soviet Relations

LD2311175790 Budapest MTI in English 1705 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Budapest, November 23 (MTI)—Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall had the impression of a new power phalanx emerging, with the Soviet Union, the US and the united Germany dominating the 35-nation Paris summit, government spokesman Balazs Laszlo said, in the course of his Budapest press briefing on Friday, when detailing the main issues concerning the prime minister.

According to Antall, President Gorbachev, during a discussion of more than one hour, rejected the assumption that the Soviet Union had cut back its deliveries of oil and gas to Hungary as a way of inflicting some kind of [words indistinct] on the country. The cut-backs, also affecting other countries, are due to economic problems hitting the Soviet Union.

New agreements would be signed establishing a new course of Hungarian-Soviet relations, the prime minister said at the government session on November 22. The foreign ministries of the two countries were soon to start negotiations to work out this agreement.

Ties between ministries will also be developed. Minister of trade and industry, Peter Akos Bod is shortly to start a series of negotiations with his Soviet counterpart.

The spokesman said that after the return of the Hungarian government delegation, Ivan Aboimov, Soviet ambassador to Budapest, expressed his delight to Antall at the reshaping of bilateral ties.

At its session the government studied the proposal of the Ministry of International Economic Relations on the liberalization of imports. According to the proposal, the state's monopoly on foreign trade is to be scrapped and 93 per cent of Hungarian imports are to be liberalized, i.e. no permission will be needed for bringing the goods into the country, as compared with the same for 65 per cent of goods in 1989 and 87 per cent in 1990. Thus 60 per cent of Hungarian products will be compelled to enter into genuine competition. The imports of foodstuffs will not be freed as yet.

As regards exports in 1991, permission will be needed for exporting energy sources, basic materials and agricultural products, important for supplying the population.

New regulations are to be worked out for the protection of the home market against goods banned in the country of origin and other dishonest commercial practices.

The next government session is scheduled for Sunday November 25, so that by December 1 the government can submit the 1991 state budget proposal to parliament.

Until then talks will be conducted with experts from the International Monetary Fund arriving in Hungary on Sunday, while the co-ordination of interests between employees and employers is also proceeding in the Interest Co-ordination Council.

Minister Bod Leaves for USSR To Discuss Oil

LD2511123190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0800 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] The Hungarian minister of industry and commerce has left for Moscow. Prior to his departure, Peter Akos Bod told Budapest Radio that he hoped that as a result of the negotiations Hungary would obtain the necessary electric energy and crude oil.

One of the subjects of debate is precisely the amount Hungary must pay for the electricity deliveries. In our view, the Soviet Union is asking far too much, the minister said.

Peter Akos Bod will also hold talks about the possibility of Hungarian firms obtaining exploration opportunities in the Soviet Union in the form of oil concession agreements.

The minister is accompanied to Moscow by leading executives of several large enterprises, including Ikarus and Videoton.

Accord Reached With USSR on Energy Deliveries

LD2311173190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1500 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Erno Kardos report on agreement with the Soviet Union on economic cooperation and energy deliveries; place and date not given]

[Text] Next year we will receive electric energy and natural gas in almost the required quantity from the Soviet Union for dollars, but considerably less oil. This is included in the framework agreement that was signed by Lajos Berenyi, state secretary of the Ministry of International Economic Relations, and his Soviet colleague. Oil, however, will be delivered in exchange for goods, on the basis of agreements between enterprises or free currency accounts.

According to the enterprises' contracts, nearly as many Lada cars can arrive as last year and, in the opinion of the state secretary, the price of spares cannot be increased five-fold as forcast by analysts.

The Soviet side indicated that it intends to be a shareholder of IKARUS.

The Antall-Gorbachev meeting also served to intensify the talks.

Economic Talks Continue 23 Nov

LD2411002190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Erno Kardos report; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Lajos Berenyi also said at his news briefing that, in exchange for goods and free currency, we can also purchase oil from Soviet republics, although at a much higher price than at present. We, however, will also deliver medicine, buses, and other products—mainly machine industry—at world market prices. The state secretary acknowledged that competition should be expected if we want to trade successfully. Markets will first have to be captured from Western countries with strong capital.

It is surprising the Soviets have ordered very few food products and light industrial products centrally. The state secretary reckoned that these could be sold for dollars or perhaps currency-worthy goods in the republics. [passage omitted]

There were, of course, debated issues and points not clarified in the agreement. It cannot be known, for instance, how long it will take the Soviet Union to settle its debts or in what form the Russian Republic will take part in the buying of IKARUS [Hungarian bus manufacturer] shares, and I could still list the debated points. What seems certain, said the state secretary, is that every debated matter can be expected to be settled more quickly after the Antall-Gorbachev meeting.

Trade Agreement Concluded

LD2411133990 Budapest MTI in English 1043 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Budapest, November 23 (MTI)—Following their two-day talks, Lajos Berenyi, deputy state secretary of the Hungarian Ministry of International Economic Relations, and Aleksey Kachanov, state secretary at the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, initialled an agreement on the list and quantity of products the two countries are ready to export to each other in 1991.

The list was drawn up so that the value of Soviet imports involved should not exceed the hard currency contingent available to the Soviet federal government; hence, the indicative list contains $1.5 billion worth of products on either side.

This amount is about 40 per cent of two-way trade this year, which will be around 7.5 billion rubles.

Separate agreements can be concluded with various Soviet republics, and inter-company deals also made without restrictions.

The Hungarian side was pleasantly surprised that 50 percent of the goods the Soviets want to buy consist of machine industry products, and that the Soviets intend on purchasing Hungarian pharmaceutical products for

$400 million, Ikarus buses for $300 million, and bus parts for $150 million next year.

On the other hand, the list showed that the amount of energy the Soviet party is ready to supply is far below this year's deliveries.

The Soviets have offered only 11 billion kwh of electricity, 5.2 billion cubic metres of natural gas and 1 million tonnes of oil. They said Hungary could buy an additional 2.5 million tonnes of oil from the Soviet republics under barter or hard currency deals.

Although the list does not feature passenger cars, the Togliatti factory indicated its willingness to deliver 30-32,000 Ladas next year.

Military Relations Accord Signed With Romania

LD2311181290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] The objective of today's meeting between the Hungarian and the Romanian chiefs of general staff was the reestablishment of military relations. Colonel-General (Ionel Vasile), ministry state secretary, who arrived in our country at the invitation of Lieutenant-General Laszlo Borsits, Hungarian Army chief of general staff, was received by Defense Minister Lajos Fur. Further details from Julia Szamado.

[Szamado] Lt.-Gen. Laszlo Borsits and Col.-Gen. Ionel Vasile signed an agreement this afternoon on cooperation in military technology, on the development of scientific relations, and on exchange between cultural and educational institutions.

As part of the three-day program, Ionel Vasile is calling on the Hodmezoevasarhely Motorized Rifle unit, so that the relations of the military units along the borders could be developed. In reply to correspondents' questions, he said that what is desired from the development of military relations is a strengthening of trust between the two peoples.

There cannot be differences between military and political relations, since the army also serves the policy of the given country. On the Paris charter he said that there will also be a cutback in the Romanian Army in the future, and military coordination will continue on 26 November in Vienna. The agreement on the two countries' military relations was initialled for Hungary by Defense Minister Lajos Fur.

New Association of Transylvanian Refugees To Form

AU2011115590 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 17 Nov p 4

[Unattributed report: "A Political Association of Transylvanian Refugees To Be Formed"]

[Text] Following long and repeatedly forced delays, the Transylvanian refugees in Hungary will be invited for a meeting and gathering of members on 18 November. The clear intention of the meeting is to found an independent political movement. As we have learned from one of the organizers, all the people concerned are expected to come to the meeting hall in 16 Zoltan Street in Budapest for a coordinating exchange of views which will precede the official founding and registration of the Free Political Association of Transylvanian Refugees on 18 November.

"This meeting will be a turning point in the life of the emigrees from Transylvania, people who were forced to leave Romania and their homeland"—former Romanian Parliament Deputy Laszlo Dudas said. Laszlo Dudas, who has been living in Hungary for some time, is a former deputy in the Romanian Parliament, the founder of the Independent Hungarian Party and the Independent Smallholders Party, and one of the organizers of the Marosvasarhely [Tirgu Mures] organization of the Democratic Association of Hungarians in Romania [RMDSZ]. He was seriously mistreated during the anti-Hungarian pogrom in March and, following repeated threats to his life, one of the extremist groups of the Vatra Romaneasca "sentenced him to death" in August.

Laszlo Dudas said the following: "The major task of our association in formation is to gather the Transylvanian refugees from all over the world and to urge them to preserve their Transylvanian identity. This emigration already numbers almost 1 million people, and we want to serve them with an adequate framework for their cultural and political activity. We express our deep sympathy with every Romanian citizen forced to flee that country. We plan to create a national minority department in our association to help every refugee in preserving his national awareness, fostering his mother tongue, and preserving his culture, and to jointly try to eradicate chauvinistic nationalism from our activity, something that still exists in Romania. We invite every person who claims to be a refugee from Transylvania to take part in our exchange of views with love and confidence."

Antall Criticizes Politicians for 'Extravaganza'

LD2311202890 Budapest MTI in English 1726 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Bonn, November 23 (MTI)—"The Hungarian petrol strike in late October has put an end to the period when all parties were thinking and acting in terms of an electoral battle. The parties have not always been able to understand that the issue is the country's transformation and not displays of extravaganza. The politicians had turned into exhibitionists. Parliament ceased to be a place for work, but turned into a stage for spectacles. There had to be an end to those times, and the end was very dramatic indeed," Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall said in an interview with Friday's [23 November] FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG.

Antall was of the opinion that of the three opposition parties, only the Federation of Young Democrats (FYD) [FIDESZ] acted in compliance with the constitutional

law. "For this reason, I regard the FYD, one of the government's toughest critics, as a party on a par with those forming the backbone of West European and American liberalism. This is a new thing," Antall stated.

The prime minister called it obvious that the government had to be reshuffled, but repeatedly rejected the idea of a grand coalition. "Hungary does not need a coalition composed of the Hungarian Democratic Forum and the Alliance of Free Democrats. It is inconceivable for these two parties with diverging traditions, style and aims to co-operate in any government," he said.

Jozsef Antall pointed out that the greatest danger threatening the young Hungarian democracy was the population's indifference, which, in his view, had resulted from the Kadarian efforts at depoliticization. Previously, the people had failed to realize that they had consumed the loans which had formed the basis of Kadar's [Minister of International Economic Relations] consumer communism, hailed by Westerners, without being unable to see that as a result of leading the country into bankruptcy by pursuing these policies, the communists had actually given rise to the opportunity for change.

FIDESZ Representative on Role of Party

AU2011112390 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 16 Nov 90 p 11

[Interview with Gabor Fodor, assembly deputy of the Federation of Young Democrats, by Attila Farkas; place and date not given: "Which Way Next?"; first paragraph is MAGYAR HIRLAP introduction]

[Excerpts] Following the local elections, the Federation of Young Democrats [FIDESZ] has become the third political party in Hungary. According to some political analysts, the maturing of FIDESZ is the greatest political surprise of 1990. The "career" of the party can even be considered as unique in European political life, given that there is no other example of a generation-based movement growing into a political force with a considerable amount of influence. The FIDESZ is increasingly marked by the striking features of a modern Western party. The FIDESZ parliamentary faction is five months old, and it has attracted further followers through its behavior based on professionalism and rationalism. The FIDESZ's balanced behavior in parliament definitely contributed to the fact that, among the parliamentary parties, it was the FIDESZ that gained the most additional votes at the autumn elections. What is the secret of the FIDESZ's spectacular sudden advance? What consequences will this advance have on the structure and political style of the party? We interviewed FIDESZ board member Gabor Fodor on these issues.

[Farkas] This year has been a significant turning point in the FIDESZ's existence: The Young Democrats became members of parliament; moreover, at the local elections, they clearly caught up with the Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF] and the Alliance of Free Democrats [SZDSZ], thus becoming the country's third political party. A large group of FIDESZ representatives —many of them above the FIDESZ age-limit—were voted into the country's self-governing bodies. All this also shows that the FIDESZ has definitely outgrown its former role as a generation movement. In what way will this transformation from a "political youth organization" to a serious party be reflected in the organization of the FIDESZ?

[Fodor] Indeed, the FIDESZ went through great changes in 1990. This is also reflected by the fact that our membership has grown from 5,000 people at the beginning of the year to our current membership of 15,000. It must also be noted that we are now considered one of the strongest parties in the country; we are present both in parliament and in the country's self-governing bodies. It must be added that despite the age limit of the FIDESZ—which still exists, and the presence of young people will continue to characterize our party—there were many candidates at the local elections who ran for the FIDESZ, who committed themselves to the FIDESZ program, but who were well above the FIDESZ age limit. At the spring parliamentary elections, most of the people who voted for us belonged to a younger generation, whereas at the autumn local elections, the age ratio of our electorate became more balanced. All this shows that the FIDESZ's place and role in domestic political life have changed. In other words, we have abandoned our former political organization category: "They are sweet and nice, but who knows whether they can be taken seriously?" [passage omitted]

[Farkas] Lately, the FIDESZ has increasingly started to play a kind of catalyzing role in parliament. For example, this mediating role was to be felt at times when the FIDESZ conducted separate talks with representative groups of the MDF and the SZDSZ, urging the coordination of parliamentary activities, or when the FIDESZ suggested compromise solutions to attenuate antagonisms in relation to some debates that almost caused a stalemate on some parliamentary bills. To what extent is that a conscious role undertaken by the FIDESZ, and to what extent is the need to solve MDF-SZDSZ conflicts characteristic of your mediating role?

[Fodor] The FIDESZ tries to make parliament work in a way which is beneficial for the country. We think in terms of a different dimension, not just in MDF-SZDSZ—or populist-urbanist—contrasts. Our situation is simplified, of course, by the fact that our generation is not marked by any wounds of the past, and it is easier for us to avoid these kinds of debates. Thus, sometimes we have a greater possibility than other parties to take initiatives or to act as mediators. For example, following the taxi drivers' blockade, we turned people's attention to the serious crisis signaled by this civil disobedience movement, thus initiating a rationalization of our parliamentary work. The solution of this crisis is in everyone's interest. [passage omitted]

[Farkas] As a result of the local elections, a bipolar system has been established in Hungarian politics: In parliament, it is the governing coalition parties that are

in the majority, whereas in the self-governing bodies, it is the liberal opposition parties that are in the majority. Is the balance of forces a beneficial or detrimental factor?

[Fodor] I think that, from the point of view of political stability, it is definitely beneficial—I would even say desirable—that a balance of forces has been established. Indeed, the structure of our self-governing bodies is just beginning to develop in Hungary, and a shift in power relations offers a better opportunity for the development of this structure. In the current situation, most of the self-governing bodies are not bound by loyalty to the central authorities; therefore, they are in a much better position to stand up for their own interests and to make use of the possibilities offered by autonomy. I think that, in the current interim situation, where we have to set up basic institutions, it is much better if these institutions are established on the basis of compromise decisions—and for that, it is beneficial to have a balance of powers. It is precisely on the basis of this logic that we urged a grand coalition before the parliamentary elections, but I hardly see the chances of such a coalition nowadays. This "grand coalition logic," however, could apply to the self-governing bodies, to the extent that minority parties in the local authorities take part in the management of their given self- governing body. That is precisely why I find the circular letter of the leadership of the MDF incredibly dangerous, a letter which advises MDF representatives who have found themselves in a minority in the the self-governing bodies not to accept deputy mayor positions. To my mind, this signals a policy of confrontation which could "transport" parliamentary conflicts to the self-governing bodies. [passage omitted]

Deputy Speaker Comments on National Assembly Work

LD2311234890 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1100 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Zsuzsa Vajda report on the regular Friday morning news briefing at the National Assembly in Budapest]

[Text] Deputy Speaker Alajos Dornbach informed the journalists that a delegation of the Moldovan Parliament was received today in parliament, because they would like to form direct relations with the Hungarian National Assembly. At the Hungarian initiative, the Minority Charter was adopted, which gives great help in resolving the Eastern European minority and nationality tensions.

Talking about the work of the parliament, the deputy speaker said that debate on the bills of order of taxation and duties is going to be continued. It is expected that the bill on the promotion and pay of judges and attorneys will be adopted.

The bill on the legal status of the commissioner of the Republic will also be put on the agenda. Until 30 November, the fate of the 20 towns, which would like the status of towns of county rank, will also have to be decided. The house committee decided that there will be no political debate in the parliament in the near future, because urgent legislative work is needed in the house at the moment.

Contrary to news published in the press today, the government did not submit the budget; therefore, that will not be debated in the house next week. Referring to the so-called slack work of last week, the deputy speaker said that the house committee's stance is that bills should be put in front of the parliament if and when they have already been discussed by the committees, and the fractions and representatives of the six parties have also coordinated their opinion.

Defense Spokesman on Plans for Professional Troops

LD2311221490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Interview with Defense Ministry spokesman Colonel Gyorgy Keleti by Andras Ercfalvi; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] A big step was taken toward a professional Hungarian Army; this was said at a news briefing today in the Ministry of Defense, which was attended by [correspondent] Andras Ercfalvi:

[Ercfalvi] The Hungarian Army will have a new system of symbols. I am speaking with Colonel Gyorgy Keleti, press spokesman for the Ministry of Defense.

[Keleti] We sought the historical traditions that genuinely evoke the Hungarian Army's finest times. We sought the traditions that could be linked with the concept of the [1848] fight for freedom. In accordance with this, the leaders of the Ministry of Defense accepted the form, shape, and ornamentation of the troop flags. So, next March 15th and September 29th will provide the occasions for the various formations and troops to receive troop flags either from the minister of defense or from the local self-governments.

[Ercfalvi] These are the external appearances. You are also trying to deal with the future internal substance. In this regard an officer's code has been published.

[Keleti] The Ministry of Defense leadership has drawn up a system of requirements which can be expected of a Hungarian Army officer who has modern ideas and who is committed to the defense of the homeland.

[Ercfalvi] The biggest surprise of the news briefing this afternoon was that the intention to establish a contractual force [szerzoedeses sorallomany] was announced.

[Keleti] Material necessity and the requirement formulated in society that we should proceed toward a professional army, brought about this decision by the leaders of the Ministry of Defense.

[Ercfalvi] Allow me to interrupt to say that surprising information was given. The training of staff to handle a

T-72 tank now costs about 1 million forints. With the contractual soldiers, this sum will decrease by one-half.

[Keleti] Because the length of service has decreased to 12 months, we must continue to train new soldiers nearly every year. If we employ a contractual soldier in this position, he will receive basic training and, if for example he signs a 10-year contract, he would only have to maintain his knowledge—keep it at the same level—to perform such jobs. We are planning to employ some 1,200 contractual soldiers in the home air-defense troops, and 800 contractual soldiers in the ground troops beginning in March of next year.

Foreign Trade Monopoly Ends; Trade Liberalized

LD2311151190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1100 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Gabor Bankuti report on 23 November government spokesman's news briefing; place not given]

[Text] The foreign trade monopoly has ceased; imports and exports will be much freer. The government decree adopted yesterday enables foreign trade activity for every market protagonist, thus for natural persons—that is, private individuals. Restrictions on imports will be abolished for seven-eighths of the products. Permits will be necessary for the import only of foodstuffs, telecommunications equipment, and ready-made medicines, apart from some consumer items.

In exports, permits are necessary for the export of energy carriers, basic materials, and foodstuffs important for supplies. These easements, however, make it necessary to work out laws for the protection of the Hungarian economy to avert underselling and market-disruption.

The government has only worked out proposals for the budgets for social insurance, family supplements, enterprise and budgetary wages regulations, and managers' incentives because it wishes to come to agreement on these in the Interest Coordinating Council. Its proposal is that family supplements should be raised from January, by 200 forints monthly [as heard] in the case of those with one child; by 300 forints per child [as heard] in the case of those with two children and of single parents raising one child; by 500 forints monthly [as heard] in the case of those with three children and single-parents with two children; and by 600 forints per child [as heard] in families which are larger than this.

The government does not wish to alter social insurance contributions. It is only partially able to preserve the value of pensions. Regarding wages, entrepreneurs are asked to show some moderation, because if they do not resist inflationary pressure—if perhaps they try to surpass the rate of price increases—inflation might run wild and become uncontrollable. Regarding incentives for managers, the government intends to abolish central regulation, but it asks that the Interest Coordinating Council determine the target value of bonuses.

Out of the preferential credits to the tune of 10 billion forints, which had been guaranteed for those who suffered damage from the drought, the Council of Ministers set aside 1 billion forints for small-scale producers, because they are also entitled to the concession, as are the large-scale concerns.

Jozsef Antall informed the members of his government about the Paris summit meeting and about the discussions held with Gorbachev. The Antall-Gorbachev meeting created a favorable atmosphere for objective economic discussions, which will be held on the occasion of the visit to Moscow next week of Industry and Commerce Minister Peter Akos Bod.

On Sunday [25 November], a delegation of the IMF will arrive in Budapest to discuss credits for next year. The government is guaranteeing 500 million forints for Hungarian participation in the Seville World Expo. The Hungarian Government commissioner for the event in 1992 is International Economic Relations Minister Bela Kadar.

On Sunday, the Council of Ministers will continue the working out of next year's budget and the three-year economic program at a special session. The point of departure for these is that the budget balance cannot be upset. The country's solvency must be preserved, and an enterprise-friendly economic environment must be created.

Budapest Police Commissioner on Police Activity

AU2311150490 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 19 Nov 90 pp 1,3

[Interview with Budapest Police Commissioner Sandor Barna by Karoly Lencses; place and date not given: "The Police Commissioner Will Not Kneel Down—A Police of A Friendly Government"; first paragraph is MAGYAR HIRLAP introduction]

[Excerpts] The Budapest police commissioner is playing a vital role in the struggle against crime, because at least one-third of all the crimes committed in the country occur in Budapest. For some time, however, we have also been aware that his activity could also become a political issue, and that his expertise and sound judgment could prevent serious crises. We asked police commissioner Sandor Barna about the relations between politics and the police, not necessarily in connection with the latest taxi blockade.

[Lencses] For quite some time, you have been claiming that the police are unable to carry out efficient activity without precise regulations, authority to decide, and the exact delimitation of dependence relations. It has also become clear to the public that confusion can easily emerge in extraordinary situations. What is the task of the police commissioner?

[Barna] I can only express my own opinion, because there is not yet a clear description of the position of police commissioner. I think that I have to carry out my work on the basis of my experiences, knowledge, and

valid regulations. The existing regulations, however, only give a very general framework, so much so that almost any of my decisions can be refuted by its opposite. Today, we lack basic regulations such as the law on public service and police activity, and we only have temporary regulations stipulating the use of intelligence methods. The penal code and the law on criminal procedure change constantly; therefore, we lack stability. When we succeed in separating the role of the legislator from that of the user in police activity, we will almost live in a proper constitutional state. At the moment, however, we can decide on too many things. We are not the ones who should decide whether people are allowed to sell goods in the underground passage or to sleep in railway stations; however, the persons authorized to decide on these matters disregard the situation or do not want to accept responsibility. We, therefore, are forced to take a position. [passage omitted]

[Lencses] I think that the situation of the homeless, the police action with the illegal foreigners, and, mainly, the taxi drivers' blockade were political affairs, rather than police matters.

[Barna] In each case, we have to find the limit of police competence. For example, in the case of the homeless, all we could do was to avoid a breakdown of the railway services. Any kind of police interference in the case of the taxi drivers' blockade, however, would have led to an escalation of the debate. [passage omitted]

[Lencses] You have been Budapest police commissioner for one year; a lot was expected of you and you came here with great plans. Summing up your activity so far, you can have no reason to be satisfied because public safety in Budapest has not improved.

[Barna] Public safety in Budapest is undoubtedly becoming worse by the day, and more crimes were committed by the end of September 1990 than in the whole year of 1989. The uncertainty resulting from the change in the regime played a considerable role in this. The Interior Ministry and the National Police Headquarters were reorganized, while I could not achieve almost any kind of change. Since May, I have had no right to carry out any organizational changes, not even to nominate a subdepartment head.

At the same time, numerous other factors have led to a rapid increase in the number of crimes. We have opened our borders and economic refugees and criminals have flooded Hungary. We cannot even register the people who cross our borders; therefore, we have no idea how many and what kinds of people are living here. I dare to say that at least 80 percent of the pickpockets are foreigners. Organized crime is spreading, but we still do not have to fear from a mafia. The number of well organized groups of burglars is increasing, however, and they probably also get information from police circles. [passage omitted]

[Lencses] You did succeed in carrying out some organizational and personnel changes, only the results have not emerged yet.

[Barna] I only tried to correct the previous organizational mistakes. I restored the group dealing with pickpockets, I centralized the surveillance on burglaries, and I tried to coordinate the activity of various police departments. [passage omitted]

Final Campaigning for Presidential Elections Noted

Mazowiecki Staff Holds Conference

LD2211025390 Warsaw PAP in English 1518 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 21—This time, Poles turned out to be wise before the event because Stanislaw Tyminski revealed his true image before decision was made. We hope that on November 25 society will elect a tested candidate, said Henryk Wozniakowski at a press conference of Tadeusz Mazowiecki's electoral staff today.

Members of the staff said that Mazowiecki's situation in the electoral campaign was difficult. All the remaining candidates made an attack on the prime minister and his government the main line of their campaign. This resulted in a phenomenon of an "accumulated effect"—the repeating of the same contents in different words and in various situations. This is one of the main reasons for the position of our candidate in the latest public opinion polls.

Walesa Summarizes Campaign

LD2211215890 Warsaw PAP in English 1731 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Gdansk, Nov. 22—Lech Walesa, who today invited journalists to the city hall to the last press conference summing up his electoral campaign, said this:

"I feel insufficiency after this campaign and I thought that I would have partners for discussion and that more would be said about Poland during the campaign. Meanwhile, the campaign drifted away and did not concern the topic. That is why such an oddball as Tyminski is taking part in it. "I am surprised that anybody would want to be president. I want to be because I was victorious and I see victory and know how to win. I have no private interest in this, as I want to do good in this country and this guides me. He who is a good stage-director in abnormalcy will be good also in normalcy."

Asked about a possible run-off in the second round, Walesa replied:

"My programme is victorious. If I lose, this means that I have no understanding. I will try not to take part in the run-off as such support is too little for what I want to do. But I will also be obliged by hitherto support and democracy, thus I do not know whether I will take part. Today I do not feel like doing this. I have solutions and know how to make Poland an orderly country. But a run-off election does not give sufficiently broad support and understanding. I do not need so much broad presidential power as an exact understanding and social commitment." "I cannot join the opposition," Walesa said about the possibility of losing the elections, "because I would be too strong and would bring about the fall of the president and prime minister in a month or in a month and a half. I will behave patriotically, that is, I will not use my strength because my kick is too strong. I will start attending to my own business and fishing-...(but, in a different place, he also replied: I will return to the shipyard and will be an electrician). Mazowiecki can join the opposition because it takes all of his strength to open the WIEZ weekly. He will not be able to do anything more."

Asked about the case of Tyminski, Walesa said that his participation in the elections was the result of erroneous electoral regulations. He also said: "If he wins, I will leave Poland but I do not believe that society will let itself be cheated by such tricks. The phenomenon of Tyminski is not bad, as this is a big training and a cleansing phenomenon on the Polish road towards democracy."

Walesa sized up the Balcerowicz plan as the only one to build a market economy but requiring corrections in detailed solutions.

Walesa refused to define Poland's future foreign policy, saying that now there were too many unknowns both in East and West.

Asked to comment on the resignation and the declaration of Piotr Nowina-Konpoka (his former press spokesman), Walesa said: "If I was furious, I would label him a 'nit'. But I neither praise nor condemn him as everybody must determine for himself. He made a choice, his ministerial post was only to last two days longer and it was his own free will."

First Multiparty Presidential Elections Held

Polling Stations Open Nationwide

LD2511082690 Warsaw PAP in English 0732 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 25—Some 22,241 election stations opened throughout Poland at 0600 hrs [0500 GMT] today as Poland is having its first in history general presidential elections. The stations are to close at 2000 hrs.

Candidates Cast Their Votes

LD2511135990 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1300 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Excerpt] There are two secrets—the pledge of confession and the secrecy of the ballot—which are compulsory for politicians, said President Wojciech Jaruzelski when asked by journalists for whom he cast his vote.

Tadeusz Mazowiecki also declined to answer the same question. He was inundated with questions by journalists. He said, however, that he saw a chance for democracy in Poland adding: If I did not believe that I would win, I would not have entered the elections. Asked if he would come to a television studio at Foksal Street, the prime minister said he would not. He plans a meeting with his election staff later today.

Just before 1200, Lech Walesa, Solidarity chairman and a candidate for president, cast his vote in Gdansk-Oliwa.

Roman Bartoszcze, chairman of the Polish Peasant Party and presidential candidate, cast his vote at Slawecinek near Inowroclaw.

Professor Andrezej Stelmachowski, Senate speaker, agreed to a brief interview after casting his vote. He told our reporter: It is good that we have made a start to a normal democratic elections. It is the right time for this. We should get used to such campaigns taking place from time to time so people would be able to decide on the most important matters. The Senate speaker admitted that in the bottom of his heart there is still a longing for Solidarity unity. [passage omitted]

Jaruzelski Votes; Comments

LD2511151790 Warsaw PAP in English 1401 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 25—President Wojciech Jaruzelski and his wife cast their votes just after noon today in one of the Warsaw polling stations.

"I cannot say who I have voted for as there are two secrets. There is a pledge of confession and secrecy of voting which is binding on a politician, especially on the day of elections," Wojciech Jaruzelski told newsmen who waited for him at the station.

Asked what he considered his greatest political failure, Jaruzelski said it was the fact he did not manage to reach national agreement in autumn 1981.

While answering another question, the Polish president said the newly-elected president was facing a very responsible task. It is most significant that he should be above divisions in Poland, take into account the will of the majority and defend—if necessary—the minority, that he be sensitive to human harm, be just, business-like, and above all, effective in action.

PAP Reports Low Election Turnout

LD2511175190 Warsaw PAP in English 1714 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 25—Today's turnout at the presidential elections differs in various parts of Poland.

In Szczecin, according to the data provided by a few polling stations, 20 to 25 per cent of the electorate cast their votes till 13:00 hrs.

In the Koszalin Voivodship, the turnout at 13:00 hrs was 25-35 per cent. It was particularly low in rural communities where a considerable number of people decided not to vote as they had a long way from their villages to polling stations.

TV Not Carrying Results

LD2511185690 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] We have received from the State Electoral Commission [PKW], at our request, an elucidation of Article 64 of the Law on the Election of the President of the Republic of Poland, which states that, we quote: Immediately after drawing up the return, the District Electoral Commission [OKW] makes the results of the voting public. The chairman of the PKW, Professor Andrzej Zoll, informed us that Article 64 of the law refers solely to the OKWs. In association with this, we inform you that we continue to be subject to the ban on publishing the results of the elections already known abroad and in closed voting districts.

That said, this information is being carried by the world press agencies and broadcasters, including also the Polish language ones. They are also being given by the American CNN program, which is being rebroadcast on the second program of Polish Television.

TV Calculates Walesa Lead

LD2511192890 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1900 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Excerpts] [First unidentified reporter] The first results have just appeared on our TV monitors. Please look at them, the first place according to our forecast and our research has been taken by Lech Walesa—according to our calculations, 41 percent. [passage omitted] What is the precentage of votes gained by Tadeusz Mazowiecki?

[Second reporter] Tadeusz Mazowiecki has gained 20.5 percent—that is exactly half of what Lech Walesa has gained, but according to this poll none of them had more than 50 percent. Ladies and gentlemen, here I suppose the greatest sensation—the third place is taken by Stanislaw Tyminski who has also received 20.5 percent of votes, that is exactly the same as Tadeusz Mazowiecki.

More results please. Next Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz with eight percent, and then, seven and a half percent of voters voted for Roman Bartoszcze. Finally in last place Leszek Moczulski, who gained two and a half percent.

We would like to point out, ladies and gentlemen, that the results you can see are the results of our poll, and they may contain some small mistakes.

[Third reporter] How were these polls carried out?

[First reporter] We were able to inspect 404 selected polling stations. In front of these polls our interviewers asked those leaving who they voted for. Every 20th voter was asked. With 70 percent attendance, this gives us the figure of over 15,000 voters polled. Of course, the truth of the results will depend on the truthfulness of those who were asked. This is how we got our results of the forecast. As our program goes on, the real results of the elections will come in.

Farmers, Workers Support Walesa

LD2511203490 Warsaw PAP in English 1937 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 25—According to the first estimates most of farmers and workers supported Lech Walesa who received 42 percent of votes in each group.

Prime Minister Mazowiecki received 4 percent of votes of farmers and 11 percent of workers, while Stanislaw Tyminski—14 percent and 32 percent respectively.

White collar workers voted chiefly for Tadeusz Mazowiecki (36 percent) and for Lech Walesa (34 percent).

Results Show Walesa Leading

LD2611145990 Warsaw PAP in English 1259 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 26—Following are unofficial results of the presidential elections from 48 voivodships (without the Warsaw Voivodship).

Roman Bartoszcze	7.62 percent
Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz	9.27 percent
Tadeusz Mazowiecki	17.50 percent
Leszek Moczulski	2.58 percent
Stanislaw Tyminski	23.98 percent
Lech Walesa	39.05 percent

The turnout in the 48 voivodships amounted to 60.35 per cent.

Elections Results Due 26 November

LD2511210490 Warsaw PAP in English 2027 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 25—At 8 p.m. sharp today all polling stations closed in Poland thus terminating presidential elections.

The State Electoral Commission is to hold a session tomorrow early in the morning to make preliminary election results public.

Mazowiecki Wins Elections in USSR

LD2511212190 Warsaw PAP in English 2035 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 25—According to preliminary results coming in from the Soviet Union, Tadeusz Mazowiecki won the presidential elections held in most electoral districts here.

It was also Tadeusz Mazowiecki who won the elections in Beijing with 173 votes cast in his favour, followed by Lech Walesa (104 votes), Stanislaw Tyminski (33), Wlodimierz Cimoszewicz (25), Roman Bartoszcze (2) and Leszek Moczulski (2).

Jaruzelski Views Elections

LD2511222790 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1934 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Interview with President Wojciech Jaruzelski by unidentified Polish Television reporter at in the Belweder Palace in Warsaw—live]

[Text] [Reporter] Good evening, Mr. President.

[Jaruzelski] Good evening.

[Reporter] Have you also had an impression that your becoming president happened a long time ago?

[Jaruzelski] Yes, it seems it happened so very long time ago, and yet so recently.

[Reporter] What are your first reactions to the [election] forecasts we gave earlier?

[Jaruzelski] I do not see anything special in them, and I think we must await further developments.

[Reporter] In the fourth hour we may have, perhaps, a confirmation of this information. Mr President, why did you not run in the election? Earlier polls, I mean earlier this year, showed that you were still enjoying great popularity. You have always had a large proportion of opponents, but you were in a safe third place. Why then did you decide not to run for the office once again?

[Jaruzelski] I understood my role as some kind of a bracket of a transitional period. This was the role which, in my opinion, allowed passage from one edge to the other in an evolutionary manner, to today's reality. Others should estimate whether I fulfilled this role successfully. But if one is near the finishing line, one should not present oneself at the starting point. Others, new people, should stand at the starting point. I would like to carefully observe the political scene, and this is what my role boils down to. But as far as popularity is concerned, let my say this: Popularity has its ups and downs. Popularity is very capricious. Politics is not a beauty contest. Seneca, the sage, said: If you only have friends, then probably you are not acting properly. Obviously one would like to have as many well-wishing people as possible, more than unfriendly ones, but one has to have respect for one's opponents, have respect for their opinion, especially when they are not biased, because this protects one against conceit, and against presumptuousness.

[Reporter] If we could return to the presidential election, to the campaign itself. How do you assess this campaign? First and foremost, I am interested in your opinion, your assessment, as a person occupying the most important post in the country, but also as a person who has for many years been, as it were, in the circle, in the elite of power, where political struggle, albeit in a different manner, was also taking place—about the political struggle for influence, but which was taking place in a completely different manner. This struggle was completely hidden from public opinion; this struggle for

power was hidden, so that society was presented with a totally artificial unity. How would you, Mr. President, assess the situation that is taking place in Poland from these two vantage points? The campaign and the elections.

[Jaruzelski] I think that this campaign was an extremely significant and important social and political phenomenon, that first and foremost it created a possibility of a free, genuinely free, choice. It gave a feeling of openness to this rivalry which was taking place and is taking place before the very eyes of the whole of society. It was an enormously interesting social and political spectacle; after all I do not wish to review this spectacle. And finally, what I think is the most important, it has been a great school for democracy. Although you don't get best results during every lessons, you do get a huge experience, better understanding of democratic procedures, which, I think, will bear permanent fruit in the future, and very soon in the parliamentary elections.

[Reporter] Mr. President. You have occupied the highest posts I talked about, practically all high posts in Poland in a totally different international situation, in an epoch which has ended—it was an era when Poland was tied to the USSR, with the Warsaw Pact, and FRG and the United States were our main enemies—now this whole world is changing. How do you assess today's position of Poland in Europe with the unified and powerful Germany on the one hand and with the internally unsettled Soviet Union, where individual republics are striving for independence, on the other?

[Jaruzelski] We live in a time, in a great time of breakthrough. First and foremost, enormous changes have taken place in East-West relations. And there is no doubt that this is a period which will possibly determine developments for future decades. Just as in 1945 a model of Europe and the world was shaped which lasted for 45 years, so I think that in 1990-91 a model will be shaped which will function for the next half-century. The fact that a feeling of global security has emerged is extremely essential. Although the world still continues to be divided, Europe is still not unified, but it is not divided any more. It is no longer divided into two antagonistic parts which show teeth and rockets to each other. And here is also our Polish, significant contribution in this respect.

But this is a matter of this worldwide, overall security, comfort I would say, even, rather than security. On the other hand, there is also the matter of direct security, the local one, which is associated with your question about our relations with our neighbors.

[Reporter] precisely. Do not most Poles rather see this in this local light rather than the European one?

[Jaruzelski] I feel that this is justified, our historical experiences eloquently confirm this. I would like at this moment to recall the words of, I think, Palmerston, who said, well-known words: England has neither eternal enemies nor eternal friends. We cannot allow such a luxury, not living on an island. We should take care to have lasting, if not eternal, friends close at hand and far away, and to seek a situation where we do not have enemies anywhere. And of course we should so carry on policy and so shape relations with our neighbors as to throw aside dislikes, complexes, and emotions, and to direct ourselves through sober calculation. But the most important thing is what we ourselves will be like, whether we will be a serious and thorough partner that counts for something. Whether we will be healthy, internally, politically, socially, economically. And this now depends on us, on our intelligence, on the ability of a united activity in the name of supreme aims.

[Reporter] Mr. President, you mentioned enemies. I would like to keep on this topic. After the introduction of martial law, you had many, many enemies in your own country. The last year and a half or two years of your political activity have won for you more than one former political enemy. I have personally heard from many of them about recognition, about tact, about the liking that they had for you, Mr. President. Apart from maintaining some internal integrity, a certain faith with your principles, that were perhaps lost or have gone out of fashion, is one of the main motives of your activity, Mr. President, not precisely an attempt to change the evaluation of your own person by your peers, that this picture of President Jaruzelski that exists amongst his peers, that you feel a little unhappy with this picture?

[Jaruzelski] You know, I think I never really cared too much about my image; I did not and do not care about popularity, and this is perhaps a shortcoming for a contemporary politician. As regards the nature of your question concerning the reaction of society to martial law, and following that, a projection onto opinion about me, the subject is so painful, difficult, and dramatic that it would be difficult to fully deal with it in such a short statement—anyway, I spoke and wrote about this subject many times and I intend to do it more extensively.

One should never assess the past in an unhistorical manner. That is why I shall limit myself today to two metaphors, if I may. I use one of them quite often, anyway. We went through purgatory to avoid hell. Purgatory, apparently, is not a nice place, but it does not close the way to the future and I think our way to the future has not been closed. And another image—a train driver brakes violently to avoid a crash. People are hurt and angry, but they are complaining; they have perhaps, at first, reasons to assess the actions of the train driver badly. This will pass, once matters are explained. In politics, in history, in public life, much longer time is required to assess the threat and what was avoided. It is important to bring this train, perhaps along a roundabout way, through wasteland, to a safe place. I think that we have reached such a place.

[Reporter] Mr. President, you are soon stepping down from your office,. This probably is one of the last interviews, perhaps the last one of its kind. Do you

intend to speak publicly, to make some kind of statement, or would you like to take this opportunity to give the Poles any message?

[Jaruzelski] I would like to have a chance to speak publicly to my compatriots. If such a chance is created then I will eagerly take it. But today, I would like to stress once again that I see great opportunities ahead of our country, but I also see great dangers. But I have faith in our nation, in our great, magnificant nation, which has yet to get rid of all kinds of pettiness in a more decisive manner, because there are quite a few kinds of them. Here, I would like to quote well-known and often repeated words of John Pope II: Overcome evil with good. Unfortunately, it often happens here that we attempt to overcome evil with evil, and mostly with hatred. Let me quote Juliusz Slowacki, another great compatriot. An excerpt from a poem: "O Poland mine, we have created out of your name a prayer that weeps and lightning that flashes." And so "weeping" and a "flash." We must make use of everything that is between the weeping and a flash. And thus—work, discipline, national accord, social justice, sensitivity to human misfortune—this is a great task and a great duty for the present generation. I deeply believe that this generation will cope with this duty.

[Reporter] Mr. President, thank you for this conversation.

Mazowiecki Reacts to Results

LD2511224490 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 2203 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Interview with Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki by an unidentified reporter in Warsaw—live]

[Text] [Reporter] We now go over to the electoral staff of Tadeusz Mazowiecki. The prime minister is apparently there already. Mr. Prime Minister, what is your reaction to the election results?

[Mazowiecki] I do not know whether you can see this poster here, on which it is written: Strength in calm. Well, I am calm in all situations. That is my reaction.

[Reporter] Do you feel disappointed with this result?

[Mazowiecki] I repeat that I am calm, and if you know the result then please do tell me, because I do not know it yet. I will wait until Tuesday.

[Reporter] We know the preliminary results.

[Mazowiecki] Then we will wait for the real ones and not just preliminary ones. But if you will allow, then perhaps I will say something without your questions.

[Reporter] Please, very much.

[Mazowiecki] Yes. I would like above all to thank very sincerely all those Poles who voted for me. I see in this an expression of trust which they have expressed in me, and I sincerely thank them for this. I also want to thank all those who took part in my electoral campaign, and to request that they do not dissolve their committees. We will transform these committees into Committees of the Alliance for Democracy [Sojusz na Rzecz Demokracji]. We will continue the struggle for democracy.

This is an essential issue for the future. As for the rest, we shall wait until Tuesday, we shall comment then. Let us look at all this with calm.

If you really insist on having my first reaction, then I shall tell you just this: I believe that these first results paint the picture of a certain crisis that Polish society is experiencing, and are the results of the destructive force which has been used in the last months, and especially in these last few weeks, against the hard work of the government which had to lead Poland through an extraordinarily difficult period. That is how I see it, but I have no intention of taking offense against the nation; I believe in its maturity—if not now, then in the future. [applause]

Vote Results Samples by City, Occupation

LD2611031190 Warsaw PAP in English 0235 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 26—The TV "Election Studio" said that the actual, though unofficial, election outcome in the nearly all sample of 404 voting centres analysed by the Obop and Infas Opinion Research Institutions, were the following before midnight:

Walesa 39.3 percent, Tyminski 23.3, Mazowiecki 19.9, Cimoszewicz 9.1, Bartoszcze 6.1, and Moczulski 2.4.

Warsaw: Walesa 47.9 percent, Mazowiecki 28.5, Tyminski 10.8, Cimoszewicz 10.3, Moczulski 1.4, Bartoszcze 1.

Krakow: Walesa 50.6 percent, Mazowiecki 31.7, Tyminski 8.4, Cimoszewicz 5.8, Moczulski 2.6, Bartoszcze 0.9.

Gdansk-Gdynia-Sopot: Walesa 56.1 percent, Mazowiecki 25.1, Tyminski 9.7, Cimoszewicz 6.1, Moczulski 2, Bartoszcze 1.

The preliminary results show to whom various occupational groups tended to give their votes:

Farmers: Walesa 42 percent, Bartoszcze 34, Tyminski 14, Cimoszewicz 5, Mazowiecki 4, Moczulski 1.

Workers: Walesa 42 percent, Tyminski 32, Mazowiecki 11, Bartoszcze and Cimoszewicz 6 each, Moczulski 4.

White collars: Mazowiecki 36 percent, Walesa 34, Tyminski 14, Cimoszewicz 12, Bartoszcze 3, Moczulski 2.

Walesa's Staff Holds News Conference

LD2611040990 Warsaw PAP in English 0235 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Text] Gdansk, Nov. 25—A news conference was held at Lech Walesa's campaign office here at midnight tonight. Broadcast live by Polish television, the conference was held by Walesa's chief of staff Jacek Merkel.

Walesa is going to make a public statement when the results of the vote are certain, Merkel told Polish and foreign journalists.

Asked how he evaluated preliminary returns highly favouring Stanislaw Tyminski, press spokesman of the Solidarity chairman Andrzej Drzycimski said the elections were a lesson of democracy working both ways. Because of that we should not feel offended by anyone. The electorate are vested with the right to vote for whomever they like to vote. And thus, Walesa is going to run for the second round of elections, said Drzycimski.

Results in 40 Voivodships Reported

LD2611073290 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0700 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Text] The State Electoral Commission (PKW) that is receiving protocols from the Voivodship Electoral Commissions (WKW) is working without a break. Only after receiving the returns from all the commissions will the PKW give the initial results of voting for candidates for President of the Republic. The official results will be given tomorrow.

By 0700 [0600 GMT]; 40 Voivodship Electoral Commissions (WKW) had completed their work. PAP has calculated the results of the voting in these 40 voivodships. They are as follows:

Lech Walesa received 40.45 percent of the votes; Stanislaw Tyminski, 23.5 percent; Tadeusz Mazowiecki, 16.46 percent; Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz, 9.47 percent; Roman Bartoszcze 8.22 percent; Leszek Moczulski 2.36 percent.

The turnout in these 40 voivodships came to 60.86 percent. We still lack the results from Bydgoszcz, Ciechanow, Kielce, Cracow, Ostroleka, Szczecin, Tarnobrzeg, and Warsaw. The results in the capital should be known in the course of the next hour.

In Lower Silesia, Lech Walesa received 35.3 percent of the vote, Stanislaw Tyminski 28.5 percent, Tadeusz Mazowiecki 20.3 percent, Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz 9.42 percent, Roman Bartoszcze 4.40 percent, and Leszek Moczulski 2.40 percent.

Mazowiecki Government Set To Resign

LD2611085190 Hamburg DPA in German 0820 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Excerpts] Warsaw (DPA)—Workers' leader Lech Walesa has clearly won the first round of the Polish presidential elections yesterday but he did not reach the required absolute majority. [passage omitted]

In a radio interview Mazowiecki announced that his government would resign. For the time being it is open as to whether he will wait until the second round before doing so. He intends to join the opposition and continue to fight for democracy, the premier said. The elections were a "difficult lesson of democracy", but also an expression of the "deep crisis" and of the "destructive campaign" against the government by all the other candidates. After the projections were announced Walesa remained silent. He does not wish to comment until the final result. [passage omitted]

Press Comments on Election Results

LD2611102590 Warsaw Domestic Sevice in Polish 0700 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Text] The press review: "A Lesson in Humility," "A Punishment for the Sin of Pride," "The State of the Second Poland"—these are but a few of the headlines on the front pages of the newspapers today, commenting on the as yet of course unofficial results of yesterday's presidential elections.

According to Dariusz Fikus, editor in chief of RZECZPOSPOLITA, the results of the first round of a warning that this is not a repeat of the march with banners to victory of last year. A warning signal was the low turn out in the local government elections this year. According to Fikus this was a signal that society is confused and disturbed by the growing conflict in the ruling camp, and that this could have caused society's liking for its leaders to diminish. The author recalls that, even in the spring, popularity polls indicated that around 70 percent of people like [words indistinct]. Meanwhile, over barely a few months, this liking has cooled to a disturbingly low level. A black sheep has benefited from the feud between Walesa and Mazowiecki. Dariusz Fikus feels that this is a defeat both for Mazowiecki and for Walesa. He adds here that the defeat of the first of these should not be treated as a defeat for him personally as any premier of the first post-communist government would be liable to it. What this government has done and what it has tried to do—and it has perhaps not been free of error,—has turned out to be difficult for society to bear. Only in the future will it become apparent that this was probably inevitable, albeit very painful. According to the editor in chief of RZECZPOSPOLITA, the necessity for a second round of elections should be a warning for all politicians, and especially for Lech Walesa, the most probable victor, that one cannot disregard the unease and worries troubling society. Fikus draws attention to the fact that Lech Walesa felt these dangers. Fikus also feels that the result of the elections will be the emergence from the Solidarity camp, for which after all over 60 percent of citizens taking part in the elections voted, of a normal constructive and thinking opposition. "Between Risk and Wishful Thinking" is the title of a commentary by Danuta Zawrocka in the GAZETA WYBORCZA. She

stresses that if, in the Mazowiecki-Walesa contest, we chose between solidarity and a risk with demagoguery and wishful thinking. Zawrocka feels that if Walesa wins then everything is possible. He might nominate Balcerowicz as prime minister, or give him supervision over the economy in some other fashion, give him a free hand in the selection of experts, and make the continuation of his program possible. This would be the best option for Poland, albeit disappointing for many. We also take into account that Walesa will want to realize his intention to carry out investigations. She states that if Walesa succeeded in calling forth the spirit of activism and enterprise, and the state were able to afford to support this spirit, then we would make excellent progress in the construction of a market and a middle class. According to Zawrocka, the worst option is one in which activism is abler to concentrate mainly on investigations, clean-outs, and denunciations, especially as talent is necessary for enterprise and, despite everything, some resources, and in this second cast frustration, of which there is no shortage, would be enough. According to Zawrocka, it is precisely frustration, disappointment, and faith in a miracle that were the reason for such support for Tyminski. He gathered supporters at electoral rallies above all through a [word indistinct] criticism of the government.

Tyminski Remarks on Results

LD2611115590 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1105 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Interview with presidential candidate Stanislaw Tyminski by unidentified reporter on 26 November; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] What are your impressions after becoming one of the last two candidates for the presidential chair?

[Tyminski] I had hoped to be in first place, of course.

[Reporter] Lech Walesa declared that if this first round does not bring a result then he will withdraw. What do you think of that?

[Tyminski] That which he said—that he will keep his word.

[Reporter] What will be your next move?

[Tyminski] You will see. Things are as they are, and we must do what is necessary, what is necessary for the country.

[Reporter] Who will you bring into the government, if you win?

[Tyminskiy] Poles, from home and abroad.

[Reporter] Have you got any names yet?

[Tyminski] No, I have not.

Mazowiecki's Campaign Strategy Criticized

AU2611133990 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 20 Nov 90 p 11

[Ewa Berberyusz commentary: "You Have Got the Poland You Wanted"]

[Excerpts] I find it embarrassing that the people working for Mazowiecki, who by nature is not given to self-publicity—incidentally, I consider that quality along with his integrity and magnanimity to be invaluable in a president—are unable to effectively express his goals and activities in concrete terms. I have been watching his election staff waste the remainder of their time by repeating the same generalizations again and again with increasing amazement. For heaven's sake, going on and on about the law-governed state is not going to win any votes! What is the problem? Is it arrogance? A lack of ideas? A lack of confidence? A mess? When television reported that Mazowiecki's campaign staff had had campaign tapes and video films stolen from an automobile, I thought that makes sense, it just had to happen....

The information mess makes me crazy. Someone has written "Jew" on the prime minister's campaign poster at my bus stop. In another place, in smaller letters, someone else has written "If ask for the Jew, you ask to be poor." Someone has sprayed "our Jew" over "our prime minister, president." Who is doing this kind of thing? Who or what makes them do this? Are they "satanists" on the fringes of society? Are they nationalists who have been in cold storage? How many of them are there, and where do they come from? Standing at the bus stop, we take a look at these graffiti covered posters and then look at each other: Some say "these unruly kids," others say "Gestapo," and some do not say anything at all. You feel ill at ease. You do not know who is standing next to you. [passage omitted]

I am waiting for someone to tell me in plain troopers' language why I should be pleased that it does not matter who wins, the main thing is that the majority of my countrymen choose him.

TV, Committee Criticized on Campaign Coverage

AU2611140490 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 21 Nov 90 p 2

["Law"-signed commentary: "State Election Commission or Polish TV?"]

[Text] Thanks to the article "Our Occupier," we found out—a couple of days before actual voting day—that Polish Television has had the right to present presidential race candidates in any way it liked to and could devote as much air time to each candidate as it wanted to. This of course, did not include the official air time slots that were allocated to each candidate's election program.

It transpires that the State Election Commission [PKW] did not put any difficulties in the way of the television network.

The various election staffs have made numerous protests to the PKW against the "election propaganda" in television current affairs and news programs. The PKW even investigated one of these complaints (Lech Walesa's camp wanted Mazowiecki's allocation of official air time reduced, because of the showing of a program entitled "Shadow Cabinet"), but found the complaint unfounded.

Why did the PKW investigators not say a single word that television is completely free to broadcast what it likes and that the protest had been lodged at the wrong address?

The television service has each week scrupulously showed the amount of air time that each candidate had received. It successfully lobbied the PKW to have the amount of air time for the proposed debate between candidates excluded from the time allocations that each candidate had been given.

As it turned out, the televised debate between all six candidates fell through, because Mazowiecki did not want to take part. He was willing, however, to appear before the cameras in a debate with each one of the candidates separately, especially Walesa. Walesa was equally keen to appear in a debate with Mazowiecki, but he abandoned the project "in the light of PKW's inflexible position, which only permits a debate with all six presidential contenders."

Why did the PKW not stand up there and then and state clearly that Polish television had the right to organize any sort of debate it chose to organize?

Why did Polish television not bother to organize such and such a debate, since, as the PKW seems to allege, the decision lay solely with the journalists and the Polish Radio and Television Committee?

Was the television service trying to stay neutral? Did it fear public opinion? Or was it simply lack of initiative? Whatever the reason might have been, the whole thing was taken to unjustifiable lengths.

Jaruzelski Interviewed on Martial Law, Elections

LD2111204190 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1511 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Interview with President Wojciech Jaruzelski by unidentified reporters at a "farewell cocktail" reception at Belweder Palace in Warsaw; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Mr. General, can I ask about something that is perhaps a little impertinent at this moment. Would this not be the occasion to tell everyone what happened, why martial law took place? The (?Czechs) are saying that (?there were) preparations, and the whole world is talking about this. Only you are saying that this is a question of your honor not to speak, because this is your choice.

[Jaruzelski] Life must mature to everything—it can mature, [words indistinct] mature, a man matures, time matures. These are events that require distance, require objectivity, and despite everything, emotions still function and certain phenomena are still fresh. We are living in completely different times. The world was divided then, antagonistically divided. Europe was divided—today it is different, and looking with today's eyes at that time deforms. That is why I feel a greater distance is still required. But I will say, at the [word indistinct] time I will say.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] for you and probably for Poland?

[Jaruzelski] But this is incapable of liquidation by one simple sentence, which everyone expects. This must be recreated through the ambience of the moment, the circumstances and conditions that existed then—the ambience of the moment, this entire, as I call it, diabolic whirl of events.

[Reporter] You probably did a lot for Poland, even by this decision, but the fact that you do not tell [words indistinct].

[Jaruzelski] It seems to me that the fact that we are gathered here today in this company, and all alive and well, is probably also thanks to this [word indistinct].

[Reporter] Will you continue to occupy yourself with politics after leaving office? Will you continue political activity?

[Jaruzelski] I will, above all, be observing politics. I cannot imagine [words indistinct], completely, completely isolated. But this does not mean that I must be active in this. Above all, I want to rest a little, and then perhaps write the story of my very long and complicated life.

[Reporter] What is the president's opinion on the elections that are [words indistinct], about this whole election campaign?

[Jaruzelski] We do not have experience in this type of campaign—one can say that this is also a certain education in democracy. And apart from all else, this is, in a certain sense, an intriguing spectacle. In every spectacle there is good play and there are fouls too. But, well, I believe that this spectacle will finish successfully. And above all, in accordance with the will of the nation, and that is the most important thing.

[Reporter] Mr. President, why are you not a candidate in these elections?

[Jaruzelski] I think that there is enough of fulfilling these varios obligations that I have had to undertake in my long life, and it is time to leave the field to other, younger

people, who will, as I judge, implement tasks in accordance with the spirit of the age.

[Reporter] Looking back, do you have any regrets?

[Jaruzelski] Please tell me, is there anyone here among us who does not have regrets? I am convinced that every man, every honest man, if he looks objectively at his life, will say, I could have done this differently, I didn't know this, I didn't understand that. Me too.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] how the election campaign is progressing? Do you have the feeling, Mr. President, that you declared your readiness to leave somewhat hastily?

[Jaruzelski] It's difficult to consider what could have been. Not only I, but many people believed that a different electoral order of things would have been more logical, but since things went as they did, we have to accept them as they are. [passage indistinct] You expect too much of me. You want me to get mixed up in the election campaign.

[Reporter] Are you satisfied with the direction of the evolution of Polish democracy as it is currently progressing?

[Jaruzelski] With the general direction, yes. As to certain specific solutions, (?no, I'm not).

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] victory or defeat?

[Jaruzelski] Neither one nor the other, apart from the sense of a duty filfilled. I am not even using the words well fulfilled because it's not my place to do so. Others ought to assess this, but I simply believe that I did what I could do, what I should have done, even though, as I said a moment ago, I would most certainly have done many things differently if I'd had today's wisdom and not that of 10 or 20 years ago. But that is probably natural. It is true of every man.

[Reporter] The Poland of your dreams, Mr. President?

[Jaruzelski] Oh, dreams. A Poland, madam, not of those things that people perhaps expect and desire most of all at the moment, that is, some sort of affluence, the meeting of basic needs according to end of 20th century standards, since to me, that's obvious... people have to live better and no (?worry) about their daily existence in quite such a dramatic way. For me, the most important thing is for Poland to be a country in which we will succeed in finding a common plane for all Poles as regards certain supreme aims and tasks, while retaining identity, individuality, and differences, because these are unavoidable... even (?war)... but conducted according to certain rules that allow us to rise about certain issues, grudges, and differences. Unfortunately, these have been with us for centuries. These are not merely accidents or ailments of the recent several score years, as people often try to make out is the case.

Please recall the old joke about the Polish boiler in hell, please recall the words of the outstanding Polish writer Melchior Wankowicz between the wars, [words indistinct], one biting another. The point is to [words indistinct] these envies, slanders, dislikes, phobias—something that has accompanied us for centuries. And this is very sad. I want this very much [to go]. Of course, one can add to this good internal relations, good friends, close and distant, and the development of our culture and civilization—all these are great goals but I have concentrated on what I would call a human and social aspect.

[Reporter] Mr. President, what do you think about some of the statements by the presidential candidates that they will bring to account the former teams, about this kind of threat.

[Jaruzelski] I think that this also is part of the color and folklore of this campaign, each to his own taste. A part of our society does indeed harbor resentment toward the times past, including myself. It is understandable therefore that a presidential candidate who wishes to gain some popularity points in this direction. Of course I would not, if I were them, tempt providence, because if we start working out what happened and how it came about, then it would transpire that the halo of these personalities, individuals or organizations, would shine less.

We all sinned, we were all less wise than we are today. I have used this expression a few times: We have gone through the purgatory in order not to find ourselves in hell. I think that this sums up best the nature of our way.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] the image of a strong man, but in your actions, apart from one case, one does not see this very much.

[Jaruzelski] A strong person is a relative concept. Indeed, I tried not to abuse, without a good need, force, although you will appreciate sir that if one is at the top of a pyramid then one does not always know what happens at the bottom.

And when I look at certain specific issues today, the internments, say, or other elements of repression, it hurts me very much that on occasion they went too far, that they were unnecessary, but that's an executive issue. I am not saying this to shed responsibility, since I think that if someone is entrusted with a high office, they bear responsibility for everything, and I accept this responsibility. But I feel, well, some regret that I did not manage to realize some things in accordance with how I wished them to be.

[Reporter] What were the most unpleasant and most pleasent events during your presidency?

[Jaruzelski] The most unpleasant and the most pleasant—well, if I were (?more of a gentlemen) I would have said that the most pleasant thing was meeting you today, madam. The most unpleasant was probably the moment

I was elected. Admittedly, I was not following the voting live, which I later regretted, because perhaps I would not have accepted the office. But then I saw it after the event, on tape, and when I saw the whole procedure and the discussion, and what I'd call the pushing and elbowing, that was very painful and unpleasant for me.

Walesa Comments on Changes in Armed Forces

AU2611131590 Warsaw POLSKA ZBROJNA in Polish 20 Nov 90 p 3

[Interview with Lech Walesa by Colonel Longin Szczerba; place and date not given: "Poland Cannot Afford To Economize on the Armed Forces"]

[Text] [Szczerba] Mr. Chairman, what do you think of the speed of the changes to the Army? Can one already say that the Army has been restored to the people from whom the communists tried to isolate it, or are there still matters which require a fast solution?

[Walesa] We should tread very carefully when discussing the "Army" topic. We are still insufficiently prepared to assess the changes in the Army or make many important detailed changes to the functioning of the Army during the process of democratic changes. Until now, the Army has been deployed in various ways, not always in accordance with the will of society. That, however, is no reason to debase soldiers and professional cadres who are faithful to their duties and their professional commitments.

Reforms to the Army are essential; they have to be carried out. At the same time, however, we must realize that this is an important and sensitive sphere of life in which changes should be premeditated and well organized.

In proportion to its functions and tasks, the Army should be strong, well- armed and equipped, efficient, and flexible. Caution is also required in solving many problems concerning, among other things, the material status of cadres, incomes, and pensions.

[Szczerba] We realize the state's limited financial possibilities, but can Poland afford to economize on the Armed Forces?

[Walesa] No, we cannot afford to economize on our Armed Forces. Matters concerning the Army and defense have to be handled very carefully. If we decide to shorten the period of compulsory basic service, we will have to expand professional service. At the same time, we must see to it that military cadres—especially those who are young and educated—find military service worthwhile. That will cost money, however, or else these people will choose other, better paid jobs than the Army.

[Szczerba] What kind of international guarantees for Poland's security should there be?

[Walesa] We are relying mainly on ourselves. We do not want to shoot anyone, but the Army must be trained and prepared to fulfill its defensive tasks. Its structure, organization, and deployment plans in case of threat must be tailored to this objective. How can this be done? That is up to the military experts. Today, international guarantees of security are provided by the balance of political forces in Eastern Europe, which requires a different approach toward the military alliances to date and our place in them.

[Szczerba] The Polish president is also commander in chief of the Armed Forces. How will you perform this function if you are elected president?

[Walesa] The Polish president should at the same time act as commander in chief of the Armed Forces, ensure that the concept of military deployment adopted by the people is implemented, and consult the General Staff on specialized issues. Essential defense expenditures, however, are necessary for the Army to fulfill its tasks. As I have said, Poland cannot afford to economize on its Armed Forces; therefore, it is very important to establish exactly how much money is needed for this purpose, establish what percentage of the national budget should be allocated to defense, and adjust defense spending according to the country's economic situation.

[Szczerba] You said it is necessary to make the Army a professional one, but do you really think that eventually it will be less cost-intensive and more efficient than the present conscript Army?

[Walesa] Yes, I do. That should be one of the results of a reduction in the Army's numerical status, but there is no point in professional military service which has little in common with training. The point is to have professionally trained experts who are needed in specific fields.

We must have a cohesive and flexible Army, but I think making it a professional one is still in the future.

[Szczerba] Can free market principles be extended to the Army?

[Walesa] Yes, but to a very limited extent, on account of the Army's tasks and functions; however, there must be a logical way of allocating funds for the Army's upkeep in accordance with the state's financial capabilities at any given time.

[Szczerba] When and to what extent can the Army be used in peacetime?

[Walesa] We are threatened by acid rain, breakdowns, and natural disasters. Only in these situations should specialized military units, equipped with the right equipment, be brought in. It is not the Army's task, however, to provide support for the economy or carry out typically civilian tasks, as it has been doing so far.

[Szczerba] You have forgotten all about the military community in your hectic presidential campaign. Is a shortage of time the "Solidarity" chairman's only excuse?

[Walesa] No. The election rules do not foresee such meetings. A military units cannot be used as an arena for an election campaign, but I will be pleased to meet soldiers and cadres at a later date, provided, of course, my duties permit me to. I want to make it clear that I like and respect the military uniform.

[Szczerba] We think the appearance on the Polish publishing market of a new military daily, POLSKA ZBROJNA, based on the prewar paper of the same name, provides evidence of the changes to the Polish Army. Do you agree?

[Walesa] Yes. POLSKA ZBROJNA is also evidence of the changes in the Army. My opinion of the paper? It is certainly a way of seeking new solutions, but most of all it is an attempt to reestablish one's own identity. It takes time, however, to reestablish this identity and credibility fully.

[Szczerba] Finally, please tell us about your working day. We know you have meetings and rallies, and have traveled hundreds, if not thousands, of kilometers. Is there enough time for all that?

[Walesa] If I had known it would be so tough, I would have preferred to be a soldier.

[Szczerba] Thank your for the interview.

Sejm Decides To Convene 29 Nov-1 Dec

LD2411045890 Warsaw PAP in English 2220 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 23—The presidium of the lower house of the Polish parliament has decided to convene the 45th meeting of the Sejm for Nov. 29 and 30 and Dec. 1.

Its agenda will include Sejm committee reports on a deputies' draft on the special rights of war veterans and persons merited in the struggle for maintaining the Polish national identity and for national and social liberation as well as of persecuted persons, on the government draft law on war veterans and persons victimised during the war and postwar period and on deputies' draft amendments to the law on the special rights of war veterans.

The Sejm is also expected to hear the reports of the chairman of the supreme board of control on the results of an investigation into alcohol imports in 1989 and in the first half of 1990 and also of the extraordinary committee investigating the same case.

The agenda will also include a report of the extraordinary committee for the examination of the measures the police took in relation to farmers protesting in the locality of Mlawa, near Warsaw, and at seat of the agriculture ministry as well as to deputies being present in the latter place at the moment, that is last May.

In addition to this, Sejm committees will present a report on the government draft budget.

Miners Choose To Strike After Talks Fail

LD2011091690 Warsaw PAP in English 0841 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Katowice, Nov. 20—Yesterday's talks held by the "Solidarity" National Mining Commission [KKG] at the industrial ministry here solved none of the miners' postulates. The crews began to organize meetings at night and morning shifts to choose the form of protest actions and strikes in many mines of the Katowice coal basin.

Miners in the "Janina," "Knurow," and "Szombierki" pits decided to go on a 24-hour strike, said KKG Chairman Andrzej Lipko and added that support works were continued to protect the mine. All shifts in the "Barbara-Chorzow" colliery decided to stop working for two hours today.

A referendum held by 5,280 miners of the "Jastrzebie" coal mine's 7.5-thousand crew chose a 24-hour work stoppage as their form of protest, said member of "Jastrzebie" KKG Adam Stepecki. The strike committee includes "Solidarity" members, members of the "Jastrzebie" employees' trade union, and representatives of the mining supervision "Kadra." Stepecki stressed that the colliery is in good economic situation but this does not result in wages increase.

Mazowiecki, Skubiszewski Meet Counterparts in Paris

LD1911235190 Warsaw PAP in English 2203 GMT 19 Nov 90

[Text] Paris, Nov. 19—Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki met with Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers and Foreign Minister Hans Van Der Broek at an international conferences' centre today.

Meanwhile, Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski held talks with his counterparts from Belgium, Finland and Canada. Skubiszewski and Belgian Foreign Minister Mark Eyskens discussed problems related to Germany. The Pole thanked the Belgian partner for his country's friendly attitude towards the issue of the Polish western border, taken while it was being discussed. [sentence as received] He informed Eyskens on the content of the Polish-German border treaty and also on the work on a treaty on good-neighbourly relations with Germany.

Eyskens called the Polish-German border treaty a great success of Polish diplomacy and, personally, of Minister Skubiszewski. Both ministers also spoke about the need to sign an agreement on cooperation between Poland and Belgium. The Belgian foreign minister was vividly interested in Polish privatisation. He said that Belgian capital would eagerly enter the Polish market.

At a meeting with Finnish Foreign Minister Perrti Paasio, Skubiszewski touched upon cooperation between Baltic states as the next stage in the realization of decisions made during the conference in the Swedish town of Ronneby. The two ministers optimistically evaluated the current situation in this respect.

Skubiszewski and Canadian Foreign Minister Joseph Clarke discussed Polish-Soviet relations as well as Polish-Canadian relations, evaluating the latter as being fine. Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney is expected to visit Warsaw next year, it was mentioned.

Tonight Skubiszewski participated in a meeting staged by the Association of Free Latvians to mark the national day of Latvia, observed on the 72d anniversary of gaining independence by it in 1918. The meeting was also attended by the foreign ministers of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, respectively Lennart Meri, Algirdas Saudargas and Janis Jurkans.

Bureau for Free Elections To Be Based in Warsaw

LD2011175690 Warsaw PAP in English 1432 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Paris, Nov. 20—The bureau for free elections to be set up within the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe will have its headquarters in Warsaw, Poland's Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki said here today. The bureau to be the centre of electoral documentation, however, will not be empowered to control the course of these elections.

During his talks with delegates for the CSCE summit meeting Mazowiecki said that Poland intended to establish an international cultural centre in Krakow.

There must be room in the Helsinki process for the Baltic republics, including Lithuania, our neighbour, the Polish prime minister said in his statement. Neither the head of Yugoslavia Borislav Jovic nor Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall raised this issue, AFP reported.

Mazowiecki Opens Conference on Western Aid

LD2311142490 Warsaw PAP in English 1318 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Warsaw, Nov. 23—An international conference of representatives of 24 developed countries started here today. The meeting is attended by representatives of the EC Commission, the World Bank, IMF, the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and UNDP.

Participants in the meeting will discuss Poland's priorities as concerns the unreturnable assistance Poland is to get during the next two years.

While opening the conference, Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki said that from the Polish point of view, the financial aid from the West should help materialize the developmental policy, deepen the processes of democratic transformation for the socialized market economy.

Protocol With CSFR Promotes Police Cooperation

LD2311141190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1130 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Czechoslovak Interior Minister Jan Langos ended his visit to Poland today. He and his Polish counterpart, Krzysztof Kozlowski, signed a protocol in Warsaw on yesterday's talks on cooperation between the two ministries. These talks concerned contacts between the police forces of the two countries in combatting organized crime, terrorism, and drugs and also cooperation between Czechoslovak and Polish refugee authorities.

Severin-Led Delegation Conducts Talks in London

AU2111220390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2058 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] London ROMPRES, 21/11/1990—The Romanian governmental delegation headed by Adrian Severin, minister, prime minister's assistant for reform and relationship with Parliament, held talks at the Department of Industry and Trade. Mr. Tim Sainsbury, minister of state at that department, who had given a dinner in honour of the Romanian delegation at Lancester House, discussed with Messrs. Adrian Severin, Mugur Isarescu, governor of the National Bank, Dan Popescu, presidential adviser, and Sergiu Celac, Romania's ambassador to London, about Romanian economic reform and its priorities.

After the talks the British minister of state announced that a commercial commission will visit Romania starting December 4 to examine those sectors that seemed to offer best opportunities for joint ventures or investments and to identify domains of mutual interest, such as food industry-,tourism and pharmaceutical industry.

At the Commercial Council of Eastern Europe Mr. Adrian Severin presented a paper concerning the economic reform in Romania, the measures to protect investments and the perspectives to gradually introduce (maybe from the first trimester of 1991) the leu convertibility.

Representatives of companies already cooperating with Romania made favourable appreciations of Romania's potential of cooperation in comparison with other states in Central and Eastern Europe.

The London visit of the Romanian governmental delegation also included talks with executives of the Slavonic and East European Studies Institute, with the government of the Bank of England, Mr. Robin Leigh-Pemberton, and the president of Great Britain-Eastern Europe Centre, Mr. Nigel Forman, with representatives of Shell Company.

Severin Meets Financial Executives

AU2011184390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1606 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] London ROMPRES, 20/11/1990—Mr. Adrian Severin, minister, assistant to the prime minister on reforms and relations with the Parliament, had Monday interviews in London with executives of "London International Financial Futures Exchange" (LIFFE), "London Metal Exchange," "London Futures and Options Exchange," "International Stock Exchange." The Romanian delegation approached various aspects of the programme for economic reforms in Romania, giving details on the legislative initiatives in banking and on the creation of a stock exchange in this country. Mr. Adrian Severin referred to the positive assessments the World Bank representatives who paid a recent visit to Romania made on the Romanian programme for reforms. A critical point in our effort for reforms is the lack of managers, said the Romanian minister among other things adding that a British assistance in selecting and training them would be welcome.

The reaction to Mr. Adrian Severin's statement was particularly open and cooperative.

Mr. Saxon Tate, president of the Joint Stock Exchange Committee, requested that the short and long-term requirements be delimited as soon as possible, and assured his collocutors that everything possible would be done to help Romania. He underscored the importance of setting up a pilot centre for managerial improvement viewed as a nucleus wherefrom decisive levers of exchanges be conveyed to all directions. It was agreed that the British side would continue contacts with Romania's ambassador in London, Mr. Sergiu Celac, to concretize those covenanted in principle.

Joint Cooperation Discussed

AU2211212790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2023 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 22/11/1990—The Romanian governmental delegation headed by Adrian Severin, minister, prime minister's assistant for reform and relationship with the Parliament, met with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office secretary of state, Douglas Hurd, a frontranking personality of the Conservative Party.

At the same time, a second round of talks were held at the Trade and Industry Department. Mr. John Redwood, minister of state and expert in privatisation questions, expressed his interest for the Romanian reform and, having been informed about it by Mr. Adrian Severin, declared himself quite impressed by what the Romanian Government had made so far in the domain.

Mr. John Redwood welcomed the fact that several British companies intended to collaborate with Romania after they had seen that many things had changed in Romania and he considered that it was due time for the British companies to see by themselves the situation in Romania and what business they could do there.

There was also an interview with representatives of the Rotschild Bank. Mr. Adrian Severin and Mr. Mugur Isarescu, governor of Romania's National Bank, gave details on the government's outlook and legal initiatives concerning the banking activity in Romania. The conclusions were, on the one hand, that a well-known company (involved in Eastern Europe) like Rotschild had not even the basic elements regarding the situation in Romania (the speeded-up economic reform, for instance) and, on the other hand, that suspicions and passivity still remained despite all explanations given.

A confrontation of stands occasioned the meeting with journalists from various reputed periodicals (the ECONOMIST, the FINANCIAL TIMES, a.o.) and with experts from famous learning institutes (such as London School of Economics).

After presenting the political reform in Romania, Mr. Adrian Severin clarified certain aspects criticised by the audience. Significant was the answer given in connection with the special powers assumed by the government: It was an attempt to apply certain laws—before their validation—already adopted by the Parliament, but that item of information was distorted abroad.

Iliescu Meets Swedish Prime Minister Carlsson

AU2011183190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1747 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 20/11/1990—Tuesday morning Romania's president met in Paris with the head of the Swedish delegation to the CSCE meeting, Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson. At the end of the talks President Iliescu said: It was a friendly, open, sincere interview. We have informed each other and exchanged opinions on our bilateral relations and the new European context in which our cooperation can develop. We have welcomed the open and constructive stand Sweden took vis-a-vis Romania, the sympathy for the Romanian revolution, the solidarity expressed over this difficult period, in connection with the handicapped children Sweden proving a particular sensitivity. As a matter of fact a delegation came to Bucharest at the initiative of the prime minister to survey the difficulties confronting us to establish modalities of helping us.

We have both underscored the wish to develop bilateral relations under the new circumstances, on a political and economic place, in areas of mutual interest.

Asked by the Romanian journalists to comment on his interview with President Iliescu, Ingvar Carlsson said: I think that the whole Europe traverses at present an historic period. Democracy is now in full swing even if it is confronted with a number of difficulties. But, sincerely speaking, we witness a positive course on this plane and we, the heads of state and government of 34 countries, have not gathered to discuss how to fight one against another but to jointly solve problems. As far as I am concerned, I am convinced that there is no way back to dictatorship. Topical now is only consolidation of democracy.

During the interview with Mr. Iliescu we have laid the foundation for a good cooperation. I would like to stress that Sweden will further support Romania's children as we all know that children are Europe's future.

Vatasescu Meets Swedish Economic Officials

AU2111110290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1009 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 21/11/1990—Anton Vatasescu, minister of state for industrial and commercial activities, received, Tuesday afternoon, 20 November, Carl Henrik Strom, vice president of the Swedish Company "Eriksson", who is on a business visit to Romania.

The interview was devoted to concrete aspects related to the cooperation between Romanian companies and the Swedish firms in the building of telephone exchanges, data teletype networks and cell telephony, a field in which the Swedish firm covers 40 percent of the world market.

Iliescu Meets Spain's Gonzalez in Paris

AU2111213890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2048 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Paris ROMPRES, 21/11/1990—On Wednesday morning, President Iliescu met the head of the Spanish Government, Felipe Gonzalez.

During the talks the parties reviewed the difficulties facing Romanian society in its passage from totalitarianism to democracy, from central-planning to a market economy.

"The measures taken by the Romanian Government seem to me among the most appropriate which are being applied in the process of changes in central and eastern Europe, but while being appropriate they are no less hard," the Spanish prime minister told ROMPRES representatives. "Changes have their price," the Spanish premier added. "There is still another issue which we discussed most openly, that of political credibility. It is an absurd problem, since elections were correct and democratic. People decided what they wanted and that is what democracy is all about. If in two years' time they want something else, they will be free to decide differently. But until then they must advance along this road and try to create—as we know from our own experience—a broad climate of consensus."

Iliescu Meets UNESCO's Mayor in Paris

AU2211111190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0912 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Paris, ROMPRES, 22/11/1990—Romanian President Ion Iliescu and UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor Zaragoza met on November 21 for an exchange of views at the UNESCO Headquarters on the organization's role in the entrenchment of a climate of European understanding and solidarity, intellectual included, in the work of consolidating peace.

"We are sure the whole Romanian people's will for democracy will allow for the overcoming soon of all

economic, cultural, educative and scientific problems", stated Federico Mayor Zaragoza to ROMPRES representatives in Paris.

Nastase Confers With Counterparts in Paris

Meets Swiss Foreign Minister

AU2111174990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1659 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Paris ROMPRES, 21/11/1990—On November 20, the minister of foreign affairs of Romania, Mr. Adrian Nastase, met with Mr. Rene Felber, federal councillor of Switzerland, head of the Federal Department for Foreign Relations.

The Romanian minister informed his collocutor about the characteristic features of the period the Romanian society is traversing, with emphasis on the transition to applying the economic reform apt to fundamentally change both the concepts and the mechanisms operating in the economy. He underscored the importance an effective assistance granted by Western countries, more particularly by Switzerland, would have for Romania now.

The Swiss minister referred to the perception of public opinion in those countries of the developments in Romania on which the respective governments' readiness depends in backing Romania economically. He reiterated the fact that his country would continue to assist Romania on a humanitarian plane, and would look into other spheres in which it can do it.

As for bilateral economic relations, their volume was viewed by the two ministers as being far from harmonizing with the complementarity of the two countries. The ministers agreed to make efforts toward stimulating them and to intensify political consultations between the two foreign ministries.

The same day Mr. Adrian Nastase had an interview with Mr. Roland Dumas, minister of state, minister of foreign affairs of France.

The interview virtually completed the previous day's meeting between Presidents Iliescu and Mitterrand, and was devoted to surveying the stage of bilateral ties and the ways of expanding and intensifying them.

Both foreign ministries agreed to back the implementation of major projects of economic cooperation especially in the public sector apt to benefit both countries and to provide solid basis for their collaboration on a political and cultural plane.

The French minister reasserted his country's determination to assist bilaterally and multilaterally the Romanian Government in its effort toward consolidating democracy and passing to a market economy.

Meets French Foreign Minister

AU2211134790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1132 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/11/1990—Romania's Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase met France's state minister, Foreign Minister Roland Dumas. The talks focused on examining the stage of bilateral relations, the ways of enlarging and intensifying them. As agreed, the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs will support major projects of economic cooperation profitable for both countries, mainly in the public sector, that could be a good background for their political and cultural cooperation. The French minister reassessed his country's decision to back, in bilateral relations and in international institutions, the efforts made by the Romanian Government in consolidating democracy and passing to the market economy.

Roman Makes Statement on Leaving for Colombia

AU2211091090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2220 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 21/11/1990—The Romanian prime minister left Bucharest Wednesday night for an official visit to Colombia, Uruguay and Argentina.

The chief of the executive is accompanied by the minister of state in charge with industrial and commercial activity, Anton Vatasescu, by councillors and experts.

After his visit to Latin America, the Romanian premier will pay a visit to Bonn at the invitation of Federal Councillor Helmut Kohl.

In a statement made before leaving, on the Otopeni Airport, Mr. Petre Roman referred to the affinities of culture, determined by latinity, between Romania and South American countries. On the visit, he stated, concrete accords will be signed on the guaranteeing of foreign investments, as well as commercial and cultural agreements and possible long-term cooperations will start in various fields such as ship and tractor building, naval and air companies, which he appreciated as "bridges between Central and Eastern Europe on the one hand and Latin America on the other hand."

Parliamentarians Want Adherence to EC Norms

AU2011153490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1507 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 20/11/1990—"I hereby bring to the attention of the Parliament and government the necessity and opportuneness that Romania officially submit its application for admission to the European Community", said Mr. Liviu Muresan, leader of the National Salvation Front parliamentary group, at the 19 November session of the Assembly of Deputies.

"I also submit to your attention", he said, "the proposal that the government should create a state secretariat for

our European reintegration, in charge of coordinating all demarches made on the matter both at home and abroad.

In his rationale, the deputy stressed Romania's aptness to integrate in the structures of new Europe, the present stage of the reform, of the democratic process and of drafting the new constitution allowing for compliance with the adhesion requirements and the EC legislation and favoring a successful outcome of the talks with the European Parliament.

The adhesion, stated Mr. Muresan, implies certain exigencies on free elections, the observance of the state of law, political dialogue and the free flow of industrial goods, agricultural produce, services, capital and persons; it implies that we catch up with their economic standards, while blending free market principles with social security policies, including cooperation areas on competition criteria, industrial standards, skilled training and, last but not least, the Romanian national currency's alignment to the European monetary system and the commitment to an unabated anti-inflationist policy, as required by the operational standards of the European monetary system.

The way to actual adhesion is a long one and not quite easy, but it must be embarked on with determination.

Parliamentarians Meet International Delegates

AU2211114590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1056 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/11/1990—The participants in the International Symposium "Constitutional Mutations and Prospects in Eastern Europe", organized by the Parliamentary Commission for Drafting the Constitution of Romania and the Association of International Law and International Relations—ADIRI—, met Wednesday, November 21, with Dan Martian, speaker of the Assembly of Deputies, Ovidiu Gherman and Vasile Mois, vice-presidents of the Senate.

Dan Martian said Romania's Parliament was intent on organizing the symposium which he considered an important and necessary phase in the elaboration of the new constitution that had to sum up and reflect the specific features of the national development and be rooted in the Romanian realities. At the same time, the speaker added, for being viable and in pace with the development of the contemporary world, the constitution had to be able to take in the greatest values of democratic development in the world.

Ben F. Overton, member of the U.S. Constitutional Commission, thanked the hosts for reception, on behalf of the guests. He added it was very important for the members of the Constitutional Commission to draw up a good fundamental law.

The symposium proves to have occasioned a fruitful exchange of experience.

Foreign Investments Agency Views Goals

AU2111203090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1830 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 21/11/1990—Romania is open to receive—without any discrimination or previous conditions—foreign investors in an economic and legislative climate favourable for the development of investments, stated Mr. Misu Negritoiu, secretary of state, head of the agency, in a conference with Romanian and foreign journalists arranged on Wednesday at the headquarters of the Romanian Agency for the Promotion of Foreign Investments and Economic Assistance.

Referring to the attributions of the agency, Mr. Negritoiu specified that that was a new institution meant to promote and encourage foreign investments in Romania, to attract economic assistance for its own development programmes.

As a specialized body of the government, he added, the agency orients the financing resources, establishes the priority programmes for the development of the Romanian economy, identifies development priorities which need economic assistance and support from abroad. The agency also initiates, negotiates and follows the foreign economic assistance programmes at bilateral and multilateral level. We want to become a link between foreign investors and foreign economic agents, our basic activity becoming the identification, promotion and concentration of the investment projects in the country in cooperation with companies and banks, with governmental, public and private bodies abroad. At the same time we initiate and facilitate contacts and direct information or assist the Romanian promoters and foreign potential investors, Mr. Negritoiu concluded.

Industry Minister Meets Brazilian Counterpart

AU2211160290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1342 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/11/1990—Mr. Mihai Zisu, minister of resources and industry, met on Thursday [22 November] with Mr. Ozires da Silva, minister of infrastructure of Brazil. On the occasion, aspects were approached concerning the expansion of Romanian-Brazilian cooperation in machine building, metallurgy, power engineering, geological prospecting and crude extraction. At the same time, Romania's programme for economic reforms was outlined.

UDMR Protests Establishment of 'Dictatorship'

AU2211160490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1342 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/11/1990—In a statement released on Thursday, the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania [UDMR] [Democratic Association of Hungarians in Romania] opines that a multiparty system implies the coexistence of parties of various orientations and ideologies, provided they should observe the assets

of democracy, but categorically states against the recreation, no matter the name under which it is set up, of the former Communist Party as the Romanian Communist Party was a ruling party that established a totalitarian, anti-popular, anti-social and anti-minority regime, promoting terror and a police state in Romania. [sentence as received]

The statement also shows that the UDMR considers all initiatives to establish dictatorship or totalitarianism of any kind in Romania as unwelcomed and condemnable, as running counter to the principles of democratism and of the state of law.

Creation of PSM Continues To Incite Reactions

People's Party Issues Protest

AU2211110990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0943 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/11/1990—The Socialist Party of Labour [PSM] is a "phony behind which the communists will sooner or later try and bring communism to power in Romania" reads a release of the People's Party of Romania.

"The People's Party demands that the Romanian Parliament take every necessary step to annul the birth certificate of the Romanian Communist Party, known as an extreme-right, totalitarian-fascist party, inform public opinion of the registration number and date with the Bucharest City Court of that political formation, data kept secret until the news of merger with the Democratic Party of Labour was broken.

"We consider", the communique reads," that the Democratic Party of Labour cannot merge with a political formation illegally constituted in the country's territory. If the situation is this, it is grave and we consider a penal lawsuit against the organizers as absolutely necessary."

Condemned by Bratianu Liberal Union

AU2011184290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1604 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 20/11/1990—Learning with concern of the emergence of a number of extremist political phenomena, the "Bratianu" Liberal Union, that is faithful to a political line of mediation and dialogue and the achievement of a true balance in the political life, and learning of the declaration on the creation of the Socialist Party of Labour [PSM], in an attempt at continuing the totalitarian and antipopular policy of the RCP [Romanian Communist Party—PCR], we are categorically against any totalitarian trends, no matter the direction they come from.

We appeal to the Bucharest City Tribunal urging them to verify the lawful character of the existence of this political grouping, which runs counter to the laws in force and to the interests of the nation, the "Bratianu" Liberal Union shows in a statement.

Jiu Miners Call PSM 'Illegal'

AU2111104790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1056 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 21/11/1990—The Valea Jiului Free Miners' Union League at unison with trade unions from many other local enterprises and institutions witnesses with regret the appearance in the Romanian political arena of unwelcomed phenomena that may have serious consequences and negative influences on the Romanian people's life. They consider the creation of the Socialist Party of Labour [PSM] as illegal and demand the Parliament to act accordingly.

Television Trade Union Protests

AU2211160890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1238 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/11/1990—The members of the Free Trade Union of the Romanian Radiotelevision protest against the insidious and non-democratic manner in which the former Romanian Communist Party (RCP) [PCR] surfaced again in Romania's political life as the Socialist Party of Labor (SPL) [PSM], stresses a release from the Free Trade Union of the Romanian Radiotelevision, dated November 22. In the conditions of the current fragile evolution of our society, the release shows, the revival of that party has the role to obstruct the establishment of real democracy in Romania. We cannot accept in any form that the present organizers of the SPL, former supporters of the dictatorship, claim to be the spokesmen of the almost four million former RCP members. Most of them had been mere fee-payers for whom the RCP membership was only a requisite of survival in their jobs, imposed by the loathsome communist dictatorship. The release highlights that the Free Trade Union of the Romanian Radiotelevision started an action whereby every member of the former Communist Party in the institution may individually state his or her renunciation of the RCP membership, as this is the most clear modality of dissociation of the simple fee-payers from the nomenklatura who perpetuate the ideas of communism in a new form.

Interparty Alliance Protests

AU2311151190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1231 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 23/11/1990—A meeting and a march of protest were organized in Craiova on November 22 afternoon by the Inter-Party Alliance in connection with the surfacing in the Romanian political life of the Romanian Communist Party by the name of Socialist Party of Labour.

The few tens of demonstrators shouted slogans against the government and against the president of the country asking them to resign, against communism, the NSF [National Salvation Front] and the television.

Press Reacts to New Party

AU2111174190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1614 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 21/11/1990—The Romanian newspapers come out on Wednesday comment from various angles on the emergence of the Socialist Party of Labour (PSM) in the political life, a party led by the top members of the former Romanian Communist Party (RCP) [PCR] nomenklatura.

"ADEVARUL," independent daily: The newly created party will not strengthen the leftist political thinking and action since, after more-than-one-century-old practice both in the opposition and in power, it is quite clear that the communist parties used only leftist ideas, democratic practices to establish totalitarian dictatorships in which neither democracy nor the leftist theory had any part to play. The fact that, once in power, communism has everywhere caused economic disaster founded on the sacrifice of millions of innocent human beings proves that such ideas provide for a generous framework only for all the economic, political and human aberrations.

"ROMANIA LIBERA," independent newspaper of opinion, information and feature report: Whereas in principle and in the spirit of an authentic democracy we consider the existence of any party, the communist one included, as possible, in consideration of the realities of our history in the last five decades and of the fact that this communist party is still soiled with blood we deem it inadmissible, the newspaper writes under the heading "Great Impudence" in a commentary titled "Emergence From the Underground."

"DIMINEATA," daily of democratic opinion and information: From now on everything is clear. The RCP has entered again into the political arena under the initials "PSM" by making use of fake and lies, demagogically trying to entice masses of adherents. Its creation must arouse suspicion among all the political forces in the country, and determine the legislative bodies' attitude. The former members of the nomenklatura and the former communist activists were not even ashamed to stay aside after the December revolution showing their intention to take over the power. The Socialist Party of Labour is therefore a serious warning for the course of the Romanian political life, as it is apt to compromise the way toward democracy, the daily shows in a commentary headlined "The Red 'Termites' Have Appeared."

"VIITORUL," daily of the National Liberal Party: The revival of the communist ghosts after only ten months since the revolution which we considered to have buried such a lamentable system for good and all is a direct outcome of the current government which, despite its statements of principle, has done nothing to prevent the recurrence of this scourge of the Romanian nation. Any extremist movement, either leftist or rightist, which turns into a real danger to the country owing to its political beliefs and means of implementing the programme must be rejected by the public opinion as it violates democratic laws and principles being conducive again to totalitarianism. (from the commentary "The Communist Ghosts Revive).

"DREPTATEA," mouthpiece of the Christian and Democratic National Peasant Party, shows in its article "Ilie Verdet's Diversion": Mr. Ilie Verdet's action can undoubtedly play a diversionist part because those who would still shout "FSN-RCP" (the FSN is equal to the RCP) are denied by Mr. Ilie Verdet's grouping that is proclaimed the heir of communists in Romania. The new Socialist Party of Labour could therefore play the role of diverting public opinion's attention from the political grouping now in power.

Roman Interviewed on Position as FSN Leader

AU2011193590 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2020 GMT 19 Nov 90

["Excerpts" of interview with Prime Minister Petre Roman with an unidentified Bucharest Television moderator in Bucharest on 19 November—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] During an interview granted to Romanian Television, Romanian Prime Minister Petre Roman said that, despite criticism and accusations, the government and the National Salvation Front [FSN] believe that the priority of the moment is to dynamize the political and economic process. The prime minister rejected certain statements which say that nothing has changed in Romania. In this respect, the prime minister said that the country has started off on the road of pluralist democracy, the process of individual freedoms is developing, and the withdrawal of state monopoly, initiative, and private property in economy is being promoted; all these are included in the program of economic reform, which is meant to bring about a change and a renewal in the country.

As far as the weakening popularity of the government and of the FSN is concerned, Roman said that this is a result of the fact that a clear delimitation from the bureaucratic structures has not yet been achieved; those people who belong to the old structure oppose changes, thus creating confusion and social disorder. The prime minister said that attempts were made toward discrediting the FSN by associating it with the old structures and social practices, but that—the prime minister said—people cannot accept such measures. The major shortfall of the FSN is the fact that it has not succeeded in involving itself more deeply into the renewing process establishing closer links with the country against certain demagogic tendencies. As far as the Tirgu Mures events are concerned, the prime minister said that the Parliament succeeded in drafting an interesting and complete report. In connection with price liberalization, the prime minister stressed that this is aimed at revitalizing the economic situation and not at affecting the people's standard of living. Asked about his duties within the FSN, Mr. Petre Roman said:

[Roman] I am the FSN's national leader as is the usual democratic practice in all countries with a democratic tradition. The majority party has a leader who is also the prime minister—that is, the executive power. There is no experiment here, there is no confusion, this is a practice which makes sense and has its explanation.

[Unidentified moderator] I think, however, that this information comes a little too late.

[Roman] Probably. I understand from your question, but I also happen to know, that there is a certain misunderstanding in this respect and it is a pity that this is so; certainly, it is our fault that we have not succeeded in explaining it at the proper time. This is a practice, however, which should be explained and we have to explain why this duality is necessary. We must be realistic about the fact that no executive power and no government can function in a democratic state without the help of the political power; furthermore, it cannot exist as an independent formation as some have tried to advance lately. Our government is a competent, democratic government which is capable of fulfilling its duty.

[Moderator interruption indistinct]

[Roman, continuing] If each step taken by this government is not justified by a political movement, which we believe should also comprise the people's will....[Roman's voice trails off, his next words become indistinct]

[Moderator] Mr. Prime Minister, in your capacity as the FSN's national leader, what can you say about the FSN in this period when all political groups in Romania are restructuring and regrouping?

[Roman] The FSN is in a full process of restructuring in the organizational area, but reorganization is first taking place in its political platform. I would first like to mention a fact which is [word indistinct]—namely, the fact that at the national conference before the elections, the FSN declared itself a leftist political movement of social democratic orientation. This orientation, however, has not gotten a shape and has not been implemented in the FSN platform and [words indistinct] in its ways of action. The current definition of center-leftist orientation, directed toward European social democratic ideals and social democratic platforms, is becoming increasingly more obvious. This does not mean that in this very real process which is taking place within the FSN, various notions cannot appear, some oriented toward the left and some toward the center. It is not only normal to be so, but it is also useful. We are going through this stage and we must convince all those who have been our supporters—and I hope they are still our supporters and believe in us—that the FSN progresses toward a formula of political movement and a political party of a very broad mass of people.

[Moderator] Are you doimg everything possible to convince people you should achieve an [word indistinct] balance within the FSN?

[Roman] This balance can be achieved solely through a democratic formula. We have seen that certain opposition parties pass over these formulas with great ease through the so-called consensus from the top. We are not in favor of such a formula. I do not want to criticize anyone in this respect. Our formula is consensus from the bottom. Thus, these are the notions that we should discuss and they have to reach the national convention planned for 17-18 January 1991 democratically. These notions have to reach the convention and have to be expressed through the force of arguments; therefore, the new political movement and the new political formula will gain the broadest adherence.

[Moderator] Talking about a democratic formula [words indistinct] this democracy, democracy in general and democratic principles. It is known—or perhaps less known—that in each democratic society the human rights and freedoms are unanimously recognized and also applied.

[Roman, interrupting] Guaranteed.

[Moderator] Yes, guaranteed, indeed. I would like to refer to three freedoms: the freedom of expression; the freedom of conscience; and the freedom of association—that is, to join an association. These freedoms cannot be violated in a truly democratic society. From this point of view, Mr. Roman, you in your capacity of prime minister and FSN leader, how do you view and appreciate the creation of the Romanian Socialist Party [PSR]?

[Roman] I would like to return to the day of 22 December to answer this question.

[Moderator] Please do that.

[Roman] That day, there was a discussion between several people who—I could say—were making up a first formula of thinking, which emerged as a formula of political power, the first formula of thinking about the situation of that time. There is also a televised document, not televised but filmed. Well, that day there were several people who stated clearly that our program is the program that should eliminate the party structure of the former Communist Party and the program that should completely endorse the pluralist democracy. This means that, when we stated this fact, we certainly thought of guaranteeing freedom of press, of conscience, and the right to association. I do not have the impression that these freedoms are violated today in Romania, neither in theory not in practice. There are certain people who still have the feeling that something is not in order. If there is still a [words indistinct] of Securitate apparatus which could still show its fangs or if a minister or a director in a higher position in a certain administrative structure assumes prerogatives and privileges—because such privileges are the ones which have bad and harmful interests in society—we cannot deny this. These freedoms, however, are the great gains of the December revolution.

[Moderator] If you allow me to make a real and very concrete statement but very [word indistinct] for certain

circles. There is no democratic country in this world in which a party of communist orientation can be made illegal, because this would affect the multiparty and democratic system.

[Roman] You are correct; however, I would like to mention something here. The way in which this party was established—a party which assumes the continuity of the Romanian Communist Party—seems to me an irresponsible act of courage. We should, however, be very categorical. These people who established the Socialist Party of Labor [PSM] stated that they have complete respect for legality and democracy. It seems to me, however, that in the way this party was set up we can see the sprouting of a practice which we tried to eliminate in the wake of the revolution. No doubt that a communist trend can exist or maybe does exist as there is one in other democratic countries. Let us not forget that in those democratic countries, that communist trend existed and continues to exist only within a democratic framework of absolute respect for the democratic principles. This party has to very clearly assume responsibility and the respect for all democratic principles in everything—that is, political activity—in the entire organization, and in their participation in the social life. We, the FSN, are most determined to fight any tendencies of revival of practices that we hope and believe that were eliminated through the revolution.

[Moderator] It is obvious that the situation to which you referred is pretty bad and that the nonobservance of democratic principles eventually leads to greater political and social tension. You talked about a riposte. Given the current situation, which we attempted to briefly examine, I would like to ask you a direct question: What is the relationship between the FSN, the Civic Alliance, and the PSM?

[Roman] The Civic Alliance is not a political group. It is not registered as a political party. It is a conglomerate of political groups, which reflects a certain amount of frustration for the failure to leave its mark in the current democratic process started by the elections. The Civic Alliance may indeed try to again bring up the questions I mentioned before. The idea of the so-called new rupture to which I referred is out of the question or should be out of the question, because a rupture today in the Romanian society means a rupture of the nation itself and of the very essence of our society.

[Moderator] Do you believe the Civic Alliance favors such a rupture, when it claims that it would be a last solution?

[Roman] It seems that this is the direction things are moving to. In view of the fact that people whom I hold in high esteem have joined the Civic Alliance, however, I hope that in the end it will try a formula to more rapidly and clearly promote the dynamism of the democratic process in Romania.

Regarding the PSM, I believe I was quite clear in what I said about it before. Not only have we nothing in common with this party—as a matter of fact, we undertook the abolition of the structures of the former Communist Party—but I can also say that it represents people with whom we want to have nothing to do.

[Moderator] A last question, Mr. Prime Minister. How do you think the FSN can become more involved with the large masses of people?

[Roman] In my opinion, the key of this involvement is the ability to inspire confidence that our draft social program and our platform reflect both common and individual interests as well as the desire and the prerequisites for fulfilling the people's desire to live and produce in freedom and to prevent the appearance of flagrant social inequities. This confidence is the basis of the FSN's assertion.

[Moderator] That was supposed to be the last question, but here is another one—absolutely the last question—which is of a personal nature: Do you consider, in your capacity as prime minister and FSN national leader, that trust put into you so far has been justified?

[Roman] This is a matter of conscience. Yes, I am convinced that I tried my best, as I promised when I assumed this responsibility, at such a difficult time for our country. This does not mean that there were no meanderings, confusions, or even ordeals. Our work was the work of honest people, who are serving this nation.

[Moderator] Thank you very much.

[Roman] Thank you.

Interparty Alliance Holds Protest March 22 Nov

AU2311151090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1152 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 23/11/1990—The Inter-Party Alliance for the Recovery of Romania in Freedom and Democracy staged, Thursday, 22 November, a meeting and a protest march in Bucharest. Leaders and representatives of the five political groupings forming the alliance took the floor. After the meeting, the demonstrators marched along the capital's main avenues, peacefully, halting in places to pray for the victims of the December 1989 revolution and chanting slogans against the government, the president of the republic and against price liberalisation.

Before the government headquarters, the chairman of the Free Democratic Party, Nica Leon, read out a protest of the Inter-Party Alliance on behalf of the five political groupings and the demonstrators, demanding the resignation of the government, the Parliament and the president of Romania.

Vatra Romaneasca: National Day Activities Needed

AU2211160390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1358 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 22/11/1990—On the eve of Romania's national day, December 1, the "Vatra Romaneasca" Union launched a call to Parliament and government, to ministries and the Romanian church, to political parties, to non-political associations and organizations and to all cultural and learning institutions urging them to undertake specific activities throughout the country in an attempt at commemorating the act of the union, reviving the people's feeling of national pride, consolidating their awareness of belonging to a dignified people that boasts a glorious history.

At the same time, the "Vatra Romaneasca" Union urges the Romanians everywhere, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Romanian institutions abroad to take this opportunity to make eternal Romania's true image known in the world.

The "Vatra Romaneasca" union invites delegates from all localities in Romania and of the Romanians abroad, representatives of embassies in Romania, journalists and other foreign guests to attend the celebrations in Alba Iulia on December 1.

Issues Appeal on National Day

AU2011194190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1854 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 20/11/1990—The administration council of the Alba County branch of the Vatra Romaneasca Union says in an appeal to the country:

The most glorious page in Romanian history was written at Alba Iulia on 1 December 1918 when the unitary Romanian national state was formed.

Over the centuries, generations after generations of Romanians fought for that ideal, and some of them gave their lives for the happiness of the nation.

Our history was not convenient, but we lived up to it and we could sense its course and put our energies in it.

Paraphrasing Prince Petru Rares, we may say that after the December 1918 revolution "we are again what we used to be, and even more."

For the nation's celebration we took history "ad urbe condita," [since the founding of the city] we dearly held our language, and waged our fight with the word and with the weapon.

We managed not to become estranged, not even when temptations were great.

Romania has expressed itself through us today, and we express ourselves through Romania where we have been for millennia, where we administer justice and achieve our welfare, in which we place our hopes for today and for tomorrow.

Alba Iulia is a heart from the heart of the country, and soul from the soul of our nation, undying pages of our history were written at Alba Iulia. It is the body of Romania. Nobody can give us the right to crush this corolla of wonders of the Romanian world. At Alba Iulia each step is sacred and each word is Romanian.

Let us once again put at Alba Iulia on 1 December 1990 the laurels of Romanian dignity and kind-heartedness on our heads. The Romanian nation holds no grudge against anyone.

We call on all participants in the great celebrations, on all pilgrims to respect the order and discipline that the organisers of the great celebrations require. Let us not allow the apple of discord to be thrown among us. Let us swear an oath at Alba Iulia to respect our historic past, to be united for ever with our land, with our language, with our sky, with our waters and with our songs. Let us show the world the evidence of Romanian dignity.

Revolutionary Transformation Called 'Necessary'

AU2111133690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1310 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 21/11/1990—Answering a question of daily ROMANIA LIBERA on a possible resignation of the government and of Romania's president induced by a parliamentary action or a street action, Laszlo Tokes, reformed bishop of Oradea, now in a hospital in Budapest, said: "I do not trust the parliament in this respect. It is only the street that will be able to induce a change of government. However, the problem to me is not that the government should be replaced by another one but that the political mentality should be changed. A revolutionary transformation is necessary, like that of December. I do not think that revolution was in vain and I am sure that the revolution started by the will of god and it opened up the way to a new future. I cannot agree to the questioning of what happened in December. To me, the revolution has remained revolution just like the friendship and brotherhood between us. And we have to continue from this point. From the point where the road was barred by scheming. The revolution is absolutely credible for me. We must not allow anyone to spoil what was best.

Referring to the political orientation of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania [UDMR] [Democratic Association of Hungarians in Romania], Laszlo Tokes said: I stated my opinion on this matter from the very beginning, showing that we do not want to organize ourselves in an ethnical party, that we want to participate in the political life of various parties. It would be natural that in future, I do not know how near it is, the organization should really be done upon other than ethnical reasons.

Answering a question about extremist attitudes, he said: Passions are equally harmful in Romania and Hungary. What can be an example for us is that in Hungary the change of regime has proceeded peacefully. I would like, in my position as honorary UDMR chairman, to be able to influence the attitude of the Hungarian minority. It is symptomatic that the Hungarian and Romanian extremists think the same way. We do not want Hungarian and Romanian extremism either and must condemn it just the same.

TU Protest of Price Increases Held in Ploiesti

AU2111214090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2032 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 21/11/1990—Wednesday a march and meeting of protest was arranged in Ploiesti by the Federation of Independent Trade Union [TU] Organisations "Concordia." Attending were delegates of 17 trade union organisations in Ploiesti Municipality and Prahova County.

The protesters expressed their dissatisfaction over the rise of prices following their liberalisation and declared against the bill submitted to Parliament according to which the minimum pay is 2,000 lei, a sum they consider much below poverty level.

They demanded urgent measures to ensure the rise of all citizens' living standard, the improvement of medical assistance, a permanent dialogue between trade union organisations and the government, parliamentarians, mayorship and prefecture.

Roman, TU Leaders Discuss Job Security

AU2011194290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1900 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 20/11/1990—Romanian Prime Minister Petre Roman had another meeting with the leaders of the "Alpha" Trade Union [TU] Cartel on Tuesday afternoon.

The leaders of the trade union cartel voiced their concern over the social consequences of the planned cut in the activity of a number of industries. They pointed out that they understood the true complexity of the government's actions, that the lack of raw materials offered no alternative, but that this action should have been initiated after the adoption of social security measures.

The prime minister explained in detail the causes that generated the decision. The situation of the raw materials is so difficult that some activities must be thought over very well. The hard currency for energy and basic raw materials can only be obtained through external loans, and the latter are granted under the obligation to use them in a profitable activity and not to support an inefficient industry.

The government, said the premier, is trying to improve the situation through collaborations with foreign firms who would provide the financing needed to render various enterprises efficient. This is one of the measures considered by the government in order to ensure social security, as internationally supported projects like the restoration of the roads infrastructure, development of the small foodstuffs industry, development of tourism and services, are expected to provide numerous jobs for the available active population.

One of the proposals the trade unions made in this respect was that once the real estate law is passed the citizens who want to return to agriculture should be given all the necessary support. The proposition was welcomed by the prime minister.

Interior Minister on Severity of Organized Crime

AU2211091690 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0500 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] The climate in Romania is getting worse every day and the population lives in a state of uncertainty, stress, and fear, said Interior Minister Doru Viorel Ursu during a news conference he held yesterday. He emphasized the fact that the police are obligated to halt this process, to ensure order, and to ensure a normal climate in the country.

The interior minister also referred to the moralizing role incumbent on the press and to its power to promote nonviolence, thereby helping the police to fulfill their mission in a concrete way.

Speaking about the issue of organized crime, Mr. Doru Viorel Ursu said that Romania is about to become an zone of drug trafficking, terrorist acts, white slavery, prostitution, and art object trafficking.

To reorganize the activity of the police and strengthen its power, the police need funds; furthermore, their budget, as discussed by the government, is ridiculous, said the interior minister. The state, civilization, and culture must have an efficient apparatus for protection and the Ministry of Interior is a fundamental institution of the state, stressed the minister of interior.

The news conference was attended by Lieutenant Colonel Viorel Voicu, head of Bucharest Municipality Police Directorate.

Deputies' Assembly Passes Public Finance Law

AU2011183290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1756 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 20/11/1990—After two-day debates the Assembly of Deputies passed on 20 November, with only two abstentions and no con, the law of public finance after several provisions of the bill had been amended during the debates by articles.

Another two bills included in this week's agenda—namely that on the organisation and operation of ministries and that on the setting up of the "Danube Delta"

reserve—were sent back to the specialized standing commission for re-examination.

At the "Varia" item on the agenda, the deputies made several proposals regarding inter alia the amendment of the Penal Code so that "an end be put to the omnipresent lies and grave calumnies" in a large part of the press, as a deputy said, the objection of each parliamentary group to their own deputies that were members of the Central Committee of the former Communist Party, the continuation of parliamentary activity to solve the interconfessional conflict between the Orthodoxs and Greek Catholics in Baia Mare, the hearing of the Romanians that went away from Covasna and Harghita Counties. No decision was made on those questions, the speaker of the chamber, Dan Martian opining in connection with the proposal regarding the press that its freedom "cannot be negotiated."

The Assembly of Deputies will resume its proceedings in plenum on Thursday [22 November] morning jointly with the Senate.

Researchers TU Protests 'Drastic' Cut of Funds

AU2211193190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1928 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 22/11/1990—The Federation of the Trade Union [TU] Organisations of the Research and Design Workers arranged a meeting in the Opera Square in Bucharest on Thursday. Thousands of researchers and designers from the Bucharest relevant institutes gathered there to protest against the drastic reduction of the funds meant for those domains of activity. The protesters' placards read: "If you do not want us, other people want us," "The experts' fate in the technocrats' hands," "The today's designers are the tomorrow's unemployed," "Is our acceptance in Europe an act of charity or is it determined by our own will?" a.o. [among others].

The speakers at the meeting emphasised that the research and design contracts have lately decreased because of the lack of money of the enterprises in the country. At the same time, foreign customers have restraints in collaborating with the Romanian researchers because of political factors. At the same time the Romanian Government delays concluding contract re-equipment of enterprises in the country. In such conditions, there is the danger of disintegrating the Romanian technical intelligentsia.

The protesters went from the Opera Square to the Victoria Square in front of the Government's Headquarters.

A delegation of the protesters and a delegation of the government started talks.

PNT-cd Deputy: Economic Situation 'Serious'

AU2111211990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2018 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 21/11/1990—Mr. Ion Ratiu, deputy for the Christian and Democratic National Peasant Party [National Peasant Christian Democratic Party—PNT-cd] in Romania's Parliament, told a ROMPRES editor in an interview: "I consider the country's situation is serious, because radical measures were not taken immediately after the power had been legally taken over. A serious economic situation implies political instability. The government has formally secured the power for itself, since it holds an overwhelming majority in both chambers—about 66 per cent. But pressure from the population is growing ever stronger, due to the economic situation. The demonstrations that repeatedly took place and especially those staged on November 15 in many towns of the country, that held in Bucharest and attended by over 200,000 people in particular, show real dissatisfaction at the course of public affairs. In the absence of drastic action which I don't deem possible at the moment, they are faced with the coming winter which will cause serious problems.

Regarding the tension caused by the so-called price liberalization, Mr. Ratiu said:

It is clear the government now realizes it has made a mistake. For that reason measures have been partially canceled. On the other hand, in my opinion, neither the Cojocaru variant nor the Anghel Rugina formula are valid from the economic science point of view. Those are utopic ideas descending from Fourier or from some predecessors of the utopic populists. Or the government committed itself to achieve privatization by driving national economy toward the free market. While the Cojocaru formula denies the free market, the one belonging to Vatasescu-Dijmarescu according to which price levels result from a "deal" between three parties—the producer, the buyer and the government's representative—is but a variant of centrally directed economy, another discretionary action. I might even say that price liberalization, by the very way it was done, was flawed and doomed ab ovo [from the beginning]. I think the present government has no solution to the crisis we are going through although I am convinced we have the best conditions to solve it. The study I made during my election campaign has been to some extent borrowed by Mr. Roman, without at the same time taking the practical measures required. I base my conviction [that] there is a way out of this crisis on three elements: the highly qualified labour we have and the population's adjusting capacity; national resources per capita which, mismanaged though they were, still make us the second richest country in Europe after France; and the fact that we have or rather had no foreign debts. It seems we are now indebted again. I'm warning you that the longer we delay radical measures the more difficult it will be for us all. What we lack is capital. Domestic capital is not coming

out because gained by fraud, so it is kept "under the mattress" or else in foreign bank accounts. That's why we need to attract massive foreign capital, as I said already in spring. In order to attract it the three elements I mentioned before are not enough. Political stability and system continuity are essential. A businessman may invest thinking he may lose part of his capital, but will never risk it all. That is the reason why at the moment the Western countries will not guarantee investments in Romania. A genuine democracy we are deprived of yet would bring in massive foreign capital for profit. Our economic recovery would then become spectacular. The danger is that, one way or another, even under the present circumstances, some economic assistance might be obtained for our recovery, which recovery might be again used as political capital in the next elections. To counteract that danger we need to change basic institutions and institutionalize private property. Anyway, I believe electors will not let themselves fooled a second time, as they did in may, because meanwhile we, the opposition, had a chance to organize.

Speaking about the activity of the parliamentary commission in charge of investigating into the June 13-15 events, Mr. Ion Ratiu opined it was essential that the results be made public even if the report was not complete. "Mr. Valentin Gabrielescu who is the Peasant Party's representative in that commission, keeps asking for President Iliescu to be heard by the commission. The same is required by several members of the commission but I'm not sure that will ever happen. Anyway, my opinion is that Mr. Iliescu should publicly admit to having made a serious political error and that he should publicly apologize."

When asked to describe the climate in the Chamber of Deputies where Mr. Ion Ratiu and other nine deputies represent the Peasant Party, he said: "What makes it interesting is that, despite being a minority, our addresses have weight. We may speak up, we may generally cause some "cosmetic" modifications of wording, but the substance of the bills we cannot change. They will probably be adopted in that form before Christmas. I'd like however to point out that I have lately been at many times applauded by FSN [National Salvation Front] representatives, which I truly enjoyed, because that proves we have a Parliament at last."

Mr. Ratiu further defined his own position within the Peasant Party as the party's economic and foreign affairs adviser (in fact he is also member of Parliament's Foreign Affairs Commission). "I have studied the economic situation and I have in mind a number of solutions to the country's economy I set forth during my election campaign. Everything which has happened since all but confirms that my study was right; meanwhile I have developed my ideas and made a subtler analysis of today's conditions."

Finally, when asked whether he thought a referendum was opportune about the country's governing form, Mr. Ratiu said that, although he was not a monarchist, he thought that right now monarchy would be a good thing for Romania. The Romanian people prospered under the monarchy. Only one of its kings was not good (hinting at Charles II, out note). All others were constitutional monarchs and under their rule our country enjoyed great international prestige. "I know King Michael very well," he added, "and I think His Majesty is a very good Romanian. He was born in Romania, was brought up a Romanian and even now he prefers to speak Romanian rather than any other of the two or three languages he knows. I know he means to do what his country wants him to do."

Defense Minister Queried on Views Toward Army

PM2011151490 Paris LIBERATION in French 19 Nov 90 p 25

[Interview with Defense Minister Victor Stanculescu by Gilles Schiller in Bucharest; date not given; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] Bucharest—General Victor Stanculescu, who is 62 years old, received us in civilian dress in his huge defense ministry office just outside downtown Bucharest. The defense minister, blond, blue-eyed, and looking elegant in a well-cut gray suit, looked 10 years younger than his age, and was particularly affable, although he recorded the whole conversation. The general has learned to distrust people....

[Schiller] Bucharest is saying that the Army might plan a coup d'etat. What is your answer?

[Stanculescu] When I was young, I liked novels very much. I knew Indonesia, which I have just visited, from the famous popular serial "The Adventures of the Submarine Dox." In the political sphere, however, we must reject fiction. NU, a Cluj newspaper, has just written that Gen. Stanculescu is a former member of the Central Committee and the Grand National Assembly. That is not true. I was a technician. I represent the third generation of officers in my family; my grandfather was a brigadier general and my father was a pilot.

[Schiller] On 14 June last year, the government dissolved the Army Democratic Action Committee. What do you think of that decision?

[Stanculescu] The Army Democratic Action Committee was a spontaneous movement of young officers who had good intentions and were not asking for anything for themselves. It influenced a section of officers and produced an unfavorable reaction from some officers who criticized and who thought it weakened the Army by dividing it and undermining discipline. That is why it was necessary to safeguard the Army's unity by stopping this movement which was spreading. History will judge when it examines this period. Perhaps we, who led the Army during this period and who used the ideas of those young officers, made a mistake when, at the government's request, we agreed that the movement should not continue to develop in the forms which it had chosen.

[Schiller] That is a way of paying tribute to them.

[Stanculescu] Although some of the young officers thought that I had dropped them after supporting them, I would like to say—and this is the first time I have said it—that in the period when I was national economy minister (until the spring) I was offered the post of armed forces chief three times. I refused it three times. After the elections, without waiting for the government's resignation, I sent a letter of resignation to President Iliescu. On 16 June, after the famous events (the miners' descent on Bucharest), I tendered my resignation again because I did not agree with the way in which the events had been handled, but my resignation was refused. In saying that, I am replying to all those who think that I am clinging to my position. Furthermore, in reply to some accusations made against me with regard to the Timisoara events, I would like to tell you that I was the only person in the Army to write a letter of resignation on 19 December 1989 because I could not accept the president's decisions. At the time, I was with the deputy justice minister and the assistant prosecutor. They advised me to destroy that letter to avoid being shot immediately. They thought I would be needed in the future and that it was a bad move.

[Schiller] Why reveal that now?

[Stanculescu] Because my critics do not so much want to destroy me as strike at the institution because of the Army's position in the present political situation.

[Schiller] You attended the Ceausescus' trial. Do you regret it?

[Stanculescu] In view of the situation at the time, until 25 December, I take responsibility for my participation. I do not regret it. I am convinced that if I had not attended, somebody else would have.

[Schiller] Do you foresee returning to civilian life so that you can provide an alternative in a difficult political situation?

[Stanculescu] It may perhaps be necessary to answer that a little later. I assure you that if the situation requires it, I will not try to shirk my responsibilities. I can also tell you that the Romanian Army has officers capable of replacing the present minister if he retires or if he is asked to step down. This does not mean that I am going to abandon the ship in the middle of a storm, even if I am not the captain. I will do it when I think it is necessary.

Army Takes Steps To Stop Slanders

AU2211225690 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1800 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] The following communique of the Ministry of National Defense was sent to ROMPRES:

Ignoring the decision of the Romanian Government, of the Higher Military Council of the Army, and the orders of the minister of national defense, a few officers, members of the former Action Committee for the Democratization of the Army [CADA], recently intensified their destabilizing activity by publishing materials slandering the Army and its leadership and by launching appeals designed to create confusion among the ranks of the Army about the development of the troops in the wake of the revolution, to sow mistrust among commanders, and to reduce the capability of the military bodies to fulfill the missions entrusted to them with a view to defending law and order. Through individual or group actions, these officers misinform both the military personnel and the public about the situation of the Army thus instigating insubordination.

The communique emphasizes, among other things, that the Army personnel—who proved their social empathy and devotion to the people in December 1989—does not tolerate the dishonoring affirmations of this small group of officers through the attitude they adopted toward the Army's appeal in Transylvania, which also revealed their antinational position. The Romanian Army is united, respects the principle of neutrality in relations with political parties, and persistently demands—like them—that these elements refrain from intimidating and disorienting it.

Given the flagrant incompatibility between the quality of military and the position adopted [words indistinct] actions outside the sound structure of the troops, and examining the actions taken by them so far—by taking into consideration the decisions of the Higher Military Council of the Army of 11 June 1990 and 13 November 1990—the chiefs and commanders proposed that they be put in reserve.

The communique is signed by the minister of national defense who approved this proposal.

Doina Cornea Interview Reported

AU2111134390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1224 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 21/11/1990—Referring to the way how the first platform of the National Salvation Front has been applied, Doina Cornea stated to the independent daily ROMANIA LIBERA that to her mind "nothing but a half-freedom of the press and speech and of organizing demonstrations has happened." "I would like to say," she added, "that through the removal of the communists from the old executive structures, the television has a chance to become free".

In connection with the events in Tirgu Mures, Doina Cornea mentioned: "I think we should distinguish that there was manipulation on the part of the Romanian Government and of the former nomenklatura, on the one hand, and on the part of some parties in Hungary as well, which were rather provocative." "But" she added, "remember that in other cities, like Cluj or Timisoara, neither Romanians nor Hungarians yielded to provocations."

About the question of Romania's adhesion to the Council of Europe, Doina Cornea opined that "we will not be accepted as long as evidences are not produced to show that there is a real process of democratization in Romania."

In connection with the recently set up "Civic Alliance" Cornea, who is among the founding members, considers that it "ought to play a decisive role in Romania's life."

Coman's Case Remanded for Further Investigation

AU2111173990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1642 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 21/11/1990—The Military Department of the Supreme Court of Justice remanded on November 20, 1990 the case of Ion Coman and other 24 defendants to the Department of Military Procurator's Offices for completion of the penal prosecution, while further having all defendants kept in custody. The decision is subject to appellation by the procurator and the defendants. The measure was considered necessary since after all evidences were produced, both those proposed under the bill of indictment and some demanded by the court itself, it was noted that many circumstances of major importance for the establishment of the actual existence and legal terming of the facts against the defendants as well as other ones apt to elucidate the case in all its aspects, had not been elucidated in the course of the penal prosecution.

The completion of the evidences requires the tracing and hearing of a considerable number of persons (civilians and military), the tracing and investigation of an important amount of written documents, including documents referring to the actions unfolded by all forces of repression that acted in Timisoara, the seeking out of intelligence with various institutions, in-site investigations and getting of material evidence, firearm investigation and new medical reports, etc. All this entails activities specific only to the bodies of penal prosecution.

Consequently, Article 333 of the Penal Code was applied to the case, meaning the remanding of the case to the prosecutor and a detailed listing of the facts and circumstances to be elucidated and of the means of evidence required.

Serbian Opposition Declares Election Boycott

Boycott Said 'Irrevocable'

LD2311132390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1139 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Belgrade, 23 Nov (TANJUG)—The largest opposition parties of the so-called united Serbian opposition will not take part in the elections on 9 December.

Representatives of these parties, including the Serbian Renaissance Movement, Democratic Party, New Democracy—Movement for Serbia, People's Radical party, and the Alliance of Reform Forces of Yugoslavia for Serbia, informed journalists today that the decision on the boycott is irrevocable.

Six More Parties Join Boycott

LD2311231290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1846 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Belgrade, 23 Nov (TANJUG)—Six more parties decided today to boycott the 9 December elections in Serbia. According to the information supplied by the united opposition, the following decided not to take part in the elections: the Democratic Party (Davidovic-Grol) [Demokratska Stranka Davidovic-Grol]; the Democratic Freedom Party [Demokratska Stranka Slobode]; the People's Peasant Party [Narodna Seljacka Stranka]; the Old Radical Party [Stara Radikalna Stranka]; the Serbian Royalist Bloc [Srpski Rojalisticki Blok]; and the Party of Independent Businessmen and Farmers [Stranka Nezavisnih Privrednika i Seljaka].

Yugoslav Bloc Withdraws From Vote

LD2311231690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2037 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Belgrade, 23 Nov (TANJUG)—The parties of the Yugoslav Bloc decided this evening, at the suggestion of their coordinating council, decided to withdraw their candidates for deputies and for the president of the Republic of Serbia.

"The irresponsible behavior of the authorities in the Republic of Serbia and some of the opposition parties is endangering in an important way the character of the elections as the democratic expression of the will of citizens, and is creating a tense political atmosphere which is threatening to become distorted into disturbances and violence," says this evening's statement of the coordinating council of the Yugoslav Bloc.

The Yugoslav Bloc is made up of: the Party of Yugoslavs, the Party of National Accord, the Workers' Party of Yugoslavia, the Yugoslav Socialist Democratic Party, the Democratic Party, the Pedagogical Party of Yugoslavia, and the Democratic Reform Alliance of Muslims-Prizren.

Democratic Party Decides Not To Run

AU2311101490 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0300 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] The Serbian Democratic Party, which is based in Knin, will not take part in the elections in Serbia. This was decided at a session of the party's Main Committee. According to a party representative, the participants in the session, which was closed to the public, held different views on this issue. The majority took the view that the party should not run in the elections. This resulted in Momcilo Kosovic, president of the party's Committee for Serbia, resigning as member of the Main Committee and as vice president of the party.

Jovan Raskovic, president of the Serbian Democratic Party, stressed that, despite his own view that the party should run in the Serbian elections, he will respect the view of the majority members of the party.

Democratic Forum Confirms Boycott

AU2311210790

[Editorial Report] Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian at 0930 GMT on 23 November, jointly with Belgrade 202, Novi Sad, Pristina, and the Serbian radio network, and again at 1600 GMT, jointly with Novi Sad, Pristina, and the Serbian radio network, carries programs presenting Democratic Forum, as part of its series of programs entitled "Democratic Elections in Serbia in 1990," presenting the Serbian parties taking part in the upcoming republican elections.

The first program lasts 30 minutes and begins with Slobodan Samardzic introducing the party. He says: "Democratic Forum is a political association which arose on the initiative of a group of mainly Belgrade intellectuals last December. This political association's founding assembly was held on 31 March this year. In its activities, Democratic Forum is guided, above all, by the principle of political democracy, the principle of social justice, and the principle of political tolerance." He goes on to say that "the Forum's activities have recently been devoted to the election situation in Serbia, activities concerning the electoral law, and involvement in truly democratic and fair elections."

The program then continues with members of the party's executive committee, Leon Kojen, Slobodan Samardzic, and Zivan Lazovic talking about the election campaign, for which Leon Kojen says "this is not a normal and regular election campaign, as exists in democratic societies." Kojen goes on to talk about the decision by the Serbian Assembly to reject an initiative to change the electoral law and says that Democratic Forum had predicted this decision and thus announced a few days ago that it would boycott the elections.

The three party representatives then go onto talk about the history of the electoral law and the demands made by the opposition parties which mainly pertain to the establishment of a committee of representatives from all parties to control the elections and equal amounts of

media coverage for all parties during the election campaign. They also criticize the attitude of the ruling party to the election campaign and the opposition parties.

Kojen concludes by talking about what the opposition can do after the boycott and says: "Only through a controlled exertion of pressure; democratic initiatives; the gathering of signatures for petitions demanding new elections, the organization of meetings, demonstrations, and so on; only in this democratic way, can we exact the kind of elections that we obviously will not have in December."

The second program begins with Leon Kojen reading out the statement that was issued today by 13 opposition parties announcing that they will boycott the elections. He concludes by saying: "At this moment, we think that it is quite pointless to talk about our political, economic, social, cultural, or any other program. There has already been an occasion for this and we hope that there will be other occasions in the near future when we achieve a real, honest election campaign and [words indistinct] elections."

The rest of the hour allocated to the party is filled with music from the studio.

Draskovic Calls For 3 Dec Meeting

AU2411200390 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Report by Sombor Radio reporter Djordje Ivkov, on Serbian Renewal Movement meeting and speech by party leader Vuk Draskovic, in Sombor—live]

[Text] [Ivkov] Several times in his speech, Draskovic touched upon the 9 December elections, as well as the decision to boycott them.

[Draskovic] It seemed to us that it is necessary to act wisely. Believe me, with this decision to boycott the elections, Serbia has virtually won over bolshevism.

Everything depends on you now. Everything is in your hands, your heads, and in your hearts. If Serbs remained at home on 9 December, communism will fall and will do so without any unrests or disturbances. We would then have honest elections at which they would fall again.

[Ivkov] [Words indistinct] of his speech, Draskovic called on the members of the Serbian Renewal Movement, as well as other citizens to come to the meeting in Belgrade on 3 December and thus defend the honor of their homeland.

30 of 54 Parties To Honor Boycott

LD2411205190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1850 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Belgrade, 24 Nov (TANJUG)—By today afternoon, 30 of the 54 registered parties in the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia decided to boycott the multi-party elections scheduled for December 9.

The decision was made yesterday, after the Serbian parliament rejected amendments to the election law allowing for multi-party election committees to be set up. The two leading and most influential opposition parties—the Serbian Renewal Movement and the Democratic Party—have joined in the boycott.

Democratic Party leader Dragoljub Micunovic told a party meeting in Valjevo, a town south of Belgrade, that it would have been better for the authorities to have accepted the opposition demands, because now they would be forced to call new elections at which the opposition would demand much more.

The Serbian Election Committee today said that the opposition candidates for the parliamentary election must personally withdraw nominations in their election units, rather than their parties sending written notices. The deadline for withdrawing the nominations is November 25.

The committee also confirmed the nominations by another five presidential candidates. Six opposition candidates, including Vuk Draskovic, the leader of the biggest opposition party, the Serbian Renewal Movement, withdrew their nominations. The authorities said today that despite the boycott they would not postpone the elections. A second round will be held if at least 51 per cent of the electorate do not turn out at the polls.

Opposition Leaders Reaffirm Stand

AU2511214590 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] The preelection scene in Serbia is still marked by the announced boycott of the elections by 30 or so opposition parties. Here is a report by Nebojsa Spajic:

[Begin recording] [Spajic] Elections could take place on condition that the Serbian Assembly adopts five amendments to the Electoral Law tomorrow. This is a stand that Vuk Draskovic, one of the opposition leaders, presented at a meeting in Zrenjanin which was, according to TANJUG, attended by several thousand people. Otherwise, Draskovic added, everything can be resolved at the meeting scheduled for 3 December. He announced that the militia should not be feared because, as he said, the vast majority of militiamen support the Serbian Renewal Movement.

Concerning the reasons for the boycott he said:

[Draskovic] We have been demanding for two and a half months that representatives of opposition parties be allowed to be members of the electoral commission alongside representatives of the ruling party and that our presence not be disallowed, as was also discounted at the beginning, but that we be normal members of the supervisory and control committees, like they are, so that we count the votes together with them and that we sign the final tally together and confirm the election results.

[Spajic] Ivan Djuric, candidate of the Reformists [Alliance of Reform Forces of Yugoslavia for Serbia] for president of Serbia, left open the possibility of elections being held, but what kind of elections? Djuric said at a convention of this alliance in Novi Sad that there will be

elections but much more quickly than Mr. Bozovic and Mr. Milosevic intend and say. However, Djuric said that he will not be at the elections on 9 December.

Djuric's stand was explained by Vojin Dimitrijevic, president of the Alliance of Reform Forces of Yugoslavia for Serbia, stressing that this party will participate at the first truly democratic and multiparty elections in Serbia. He called the elections that are scheduled for 9 December a farce. [end recording]

Serbian Assembly Debates Law Governing Elections

AU2611102790 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1000 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Milorad Jovic report from Belgrade]

[Text] [Jovic] All three chambers of the Serbian Assembly [word indistinct] the initiative that a discussion on the amendments to the electoral law be reopened.

The republican Executive Council was asked to meet urgently again and review all proposed amendments, and to inform the Assembly about its stand.

The chamber delegates did not discuss the proposal to review the amendments at (?length). They agreed that it was not the right time to quarrel in a situation which was very important for Serbia.

In the Sociopolitical Chamber, Brana Crncevic said that the doubt in the regularity of the upcoming elections was extorted and that the parties are not cooperating sufficiently among each other and with the authorities.

However, the Serbian Assembly and the State of Serbia must remove all doubts from themselves. The amendments should again be reviewed and adopt everything that is good. According to Crncevic, the elections should not be postponed, but only postpone the deadline for the registration of candidates for people's deputies and the president of the republic.

In our next news programs we will inform you more about the work of the Serbian Assembly and the fate of the amendments to the electoral law on which the fate of the first multiparty elections depend.

Yugoslav Bloc Issues Statement

LD2411234590 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2306 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Belgrade, 24 Nov (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Bloc, made up of seven small parties, has suggested to the Assembly of Serbia to consider again at a special session and adopt the five controversial opposition amendments to the republic's election law, "thus showing political wisdom and reason," it was stated here Saturday evening [24 November].

The statement points out that the tense political atmosphere, threatening to turn into disorder and violence, is being incited on both sides by the calls for protest or support. The Yugoslav Bloc dissociates itself from this and calls on the citizens to refrain from any disorder, violence or obstruction of electoral activities of the parties wishing to participate in the elections. It expresses the wish that the political will of the parties' memberships may be manifested in the manner of democratic parliamentarianism.

The statement was adopted at today's meeting of the coordinating council of all parties of the bloc.

It said that the bloc did not sign the announcement on a boycott of the elections set for December 9.

Thirty of the 54 registered political parties have so far announced their intention to boycott the elections.

Foreign Secretary Says Elections Will Be Held

AU2411163090 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Excerpt] We are convinced that these elections are going to be completely regular and this is why we are of the opinion that it was in fact a fear of electoral results alone that made the opposition parties decide to boycott them. This is what Aleksandar Prlja, republican secretary for foreign affairs, said at the news conference for foreign journalists held at the republican Executive Council following the opposition parties announced yesterday that they would not run in the elections. Here is a report by Zorica Pantelic:

[Pantelic] Asked by journalists how one can speak of truly legitimate elections if the opposition has no control, Prlja answered that parties can have their representatives at all polling stations and can take part in the control of voting and the vote count. In reply to the remark that this is something new, something that was announced by the republican Electoral Commission's staff only last night, Aleksandar Prlja said that some journalists may consider it to be news, but that the government and the Serbian Assembly have been talking about it for about 10 days. Where does the problem lie then, journalists asked. You should ask the opposition that question, was the answer.

When it was remarked that even this news only makes it possible for party representatives to be mere observers at the elections, and not members of the electoral body, the answer was that there is no legal, but only a formal distinction there.

Here are some more questions we consider to be interesting. Can the parties be present at the vote count? The answer was: Yes. Will (?everything) be done publicly? The reply was the same. When the journalists insisted on being given an exact account of the dispute with the opposition, the reply was that what is involved is only the fear of the opposition leaders' pretentious promises that they will win the upcoming elections.

Aleksandar Prlja then said that, as was said before, the elections in Serbia will be held on 9 December if more than 51 percent of the electorate turns out. [passage omitted]

Prlja Insists Election Supervision 'Honorable'

LD2411191590 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1650 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Belgrade, 24 Nov (TANJUG)—Elections in Serbia will be held on December 9, as planned, despite the opposition boycott, Foreign Secretary of the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia Aleksandar Prlja said here today.

A second round of elections will be held if a minimum of 51 per cent of the electorate fails to appear at the polls in the first round, said Prlja, adding that a possibility of rigging the multi-party elections was ruled out.

Yesterday's decision of the leading opposition parties to boycott the elections because their demand for the vote-counting committees to consist of several parties was rejected is due to their "fear of the election results", said Prlja.

Commenting on the fact that the election bodies have been set up by one party (the Socialist Party of Serbia, formerly the League of Communists of Serbia), Prlja said that the party had created "the most honorable system of supervising elections that could have been created".

Draskovic Promises Victory to 30,000 in Zajecar

AU2211193490 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] The Serbian Renewal Movement held a meeting this afternoon in Zajecar at which Vuk Draskovic, the leader of this party, addressed 30,000 Timok people. Radomir Veljkovic has the details:

[Begin recording] [Veljkovic] According to its leader, the Serbian Renewal Movement is the party that will be victorious at the upcoming elections in Serbia. It cannot even be prevented by the numerous untruths which are being (?launched) every day through the media and in speeches by the leaders of the ruling Socialist Party, Vuk Draskovic told the people gathered in Zajecar.

He assessed yesterday's speech by Slobodan Milosevic, president of the Serbian Presidency, as an attack on the Serbian Renewal Movement and democracy in Serbia. The confidence of the people obliges the party to stand at the elections scheduled for 9 December, Vuk Draskovic stressed:

[Draskovic] We have not yet made the decision but I can tell you that we are also still considering the extreme possibility that we will stand at the elections on 9 December in [word indistinct] circumstances. But we are a party of youth. Youth is on our side. [cheers] Our young people will blockade all polling stations and [words indistinct] bring out the box from every building so that we can count the votes in the presence of the press and all opposition parties. [cheers] [end recording]

Milan Komnenic, president of the executive committee of the Serbian Renewal Movement, spoke about the need for national reconciliation at the meeting in Zajecar. This party's candidates for the two deputy's seats in Zajecar also presented themselves, Slavoljub Misic and Miroslav Pesic, electrical engineer.

Eight Serbian Presidential Candidates Registered

LD2111072190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2126 GMT 20 Nov 90

[Text] Belgrade, 20 Nov (TANJUG)—Eight candidates have been officially registered so far for the presidential elections in Yugoslavia's Republic of Serbia scheduled for December 9, the Serbian Parliament was told on Tuesday [20 November].

Believed to be the strongest among these candidates is the writer and publicist Vuk Draskovic, nominated by the Serbian Renewal Movement.

Some of the about 50 political parties registered in Serbia are only to nominate their candidates or have done so, but the nominations have not yet gone through the prescribed procedure. [sentence as received] This is the case with the current President of Serbia Slobodan Milosevic, whose nomination by the Socialist Party of Serbia has not yet been confirmed by the republic's polling committee.

The time limit for the registration of presidential candidates is November 23.

The publicist and publisher Blazo Perovic was today nominated by a coalition of eight parties, known as the Yugoslav Bloc of Parties. The presidential candidate put up jointly by the Alliance of Reformist Forces for Serbia, launched by Prime Minister Ante Markovic, and the Association for Yugoslav Democratic Initiative is university professor Ivan Djuric.

One of the stronger Serbian opposition parties, the Democratic Party, has not yet revealed the name of its candidate, and representatives of the two distinctly Yugoslav-oriented parties therefore asked it at today's press conference to support Djuric.

Explaining the proposal to nominate Professor Djuric, the representatives said their parties had proceeded from the requirement that their candidate should "differ from both the national-Bolshevik Milosevic and the anti-communist nationalist Draskovic," and should advocate staunchly the idea of rights and freedoms of the individual in contrast to collectivism.

The alliance and association representatives noted that what "Serbia, more isolated than ever, needs most now is an eminent and competent candidate to talk with others in Yugoslavia and Europe." In a brief statement Professor Djuric said that, if elected president, he would first of all abolish the "enormous presidential prerogatives" under the existing Serbian Constitution and initiate a democratic procedure for the adoption of a new constitution.

Babic Officially Denies Rumors

AU2311213590 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2100 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] In this evening's news program, we carried a report from Zagreb which said, among other things, that rumors were spreading in Assembly corridors about an alleged conflict in the Serbian Democratic Party, and this was backed up by the news that Milan Babic, president of the Knin commune, had been injured. After the program, we were contacted by the Information Center in Knin, the Knin radio station, and Milan Babic himself to deny the rumors that are spreading through the Croatian Assembly.

Serb Prime Minsiter on Federal Government's Fate

LD2111235290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1602 GMT 21 Nov 90

[Text] Novi Sad, November 21 (TANJUG)—Serbian Prime Minister Dr Stanko Radmilovic warned in Novi Sad today that the federal government will cease to exist if it does not immediately change its concept of the economic reform.

Speaking in the capital of Serbia's Vojvodina Province, Radmilovic said that Serbia, Yugoslavia's biggest republic, would pay only 50 percent, instead of the usual 75 percent, of sales tax income into the federal budget, in order to leave more funds for its investment cycle. If recession continues at the current pace, we shall become even more restrictive, he underlined.

The federal government plans to battle inflation, which has started to appear again (8.1 percent in October), by limited expenditures and a restrictive credit-monetary policy.

Speaking in Novi Sad today, Dr Radmilovic said that Serbia has the best conditions to survive alone, but also the least reason to fight for a Yugoslav federation if others do not want it. However, if we urge a federal Yugoslavia, it will not be condescendingly or to the detriment of Serbia,he explained.

The Northwestern Yugoslav republic of Slovenia and Croatia, which are the most industrialized, will agree only to a confederal Yugoslavia.

Second Round of Elections Held in Macedonia

LD2511120690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0908 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Skopje, 25 Nov (TANJUG)—The second round of voting began at exactly 7 a.m. [0600 GMT] in the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Over 1.3 million voters in 75 electoral units are to choose 107 of the total 120 deputies in the new single-house republican parliament.

A total of [number indistinct] candidates, representatives of 12 political parties and three independent candidates, entered the second round following the first round on November 11.

At the same time, first round polling is being repeated in 176 polling stations in 33 electoral units, because of irregularities in the election procedure.

A mere 13 candidates secured their place in Macedonian parliament after the first round.

Voting Ends; News Conference Held

AU2511200790 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Polling stations in Macedonia started closing a few minutes ago, thus concluding the second round of voting for communal representatives and deputies in the republican Assembly. Members of the republican Electoral Commission are holding a news conference in Skopje to brief journalists on current figures concerning the voter turnout and other details which were important for today's deciding round in the first multiparty elections in Macedonia. Boris Djordjioski reports from Skopje:

[Begin Djordjioski recording] The second round of elections for representatives and deputies in the republican Assembly have been successful. This was stressed by (Korco Hadzilega), deputy chairman of the republican Electoral Commission, who reported the fact that by 1800 [1700 GMT], that is an hour before polling stations closed, 66 percent of the electorate had voted. Although this estimate is not totally precise, it relates to 75 constituencies where the second round of voting took place today for the election of 75 republican deputies. The smallest turnout was in the Skopje commune of Centar where only slightly more than 35 percent of the electorate voted.

To judge by initial reports from this commission, it is thought that the voting in the 33 constituencies where the elections were repeated was also successful and the turnout of the electorate is expected to be above 60 percent. The voting that took place two weeks ago in these constituencies had been annulled because of a series of (?irregularities) and shortcomings, but according to the chairman of the republican Electoral Commission, no blunders whatsoever were made today.

In reply to a question from journalists, whether the claims by the Albanian Party of Democratic Prosperity that pressure had been exerted on voters, Hadzilega said that these were only unverified rumors and that the commission had no information on this.

Journalists did not receive exact and precise answers to other contentious questions either and the commission was criticized for its arrogant attitude toward the public and media because answers usually amounted to phrases such as: "We do not know"; "That is not true"; "I am not going to repeat what I have already said." A question

about when the first official results of today's elections in Macedonia will be known received a response that was equally inadequate.

Head of Macedonian Communists Confident of Victory

AU2311151590 Skopje NOVA MAKEDONIJA in Macedonian 20 Nov 90 p 3

[Statement by Petar Gosev, president of the League of Communists of Macedonia-Party of Democratic Transformation; place and date not given: "We Have an Obvious Advantage"]

[Text] The League of Communists of Macedonia-Party of Democratic Transformation is satisfied with the results of the first round of elections considering that it has an obvious advantage and that this advantage is not as foggy as presented in the media and the scarce information of the republican Electoral Commission. The party was supported by 24.7 percent of those who voted in the first round of elections. In the 67 constituencies in which elections were valid, the League of Communists of Macedonia-Party of Democratic Transformation had 29 candidates with the highest number of votes in the first round of voting. The Alliance of Reform Forces had 21 candidates with the highest number of votes, the VMRO-DPMNE [Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization-Democratic Party for Macedonia National Unity] had nine, the Party of Democratic Prosperity had six, and the Socialist Party had two candidates with the highest number of votes. This means that our forecast will materialize, but the second round will not be easy at all.

Slovenia Prepares for Plebiscite on Independence

LD2411041190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2352 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 23 Nov (TANJUG)—The constitutional commission of the Republic of Slovenia, northwestern Yugoslavia, today formulated the way for this republic's voters to vote at a plebiscite on Slovenia's substantiveness and independence. The final decision is to be taken by Slovenia's parliament at its session scheduled for November 27.

In addition to 'yes' or 'no' ballots on Slovenia's substantiveness and independence, the voters would be handed a proclamation to contain, as agreed on the commission, a wording saying that Slovenia is becoming substantive and independent on the day of the plebiscite's proclamation and ceases to be associated within Yugoslavia.

The said proclamation, according to the solution offered, would also have it that Slovenia can conclude international treaties and confederal treaties with the democratic states of other Yugoslav peoples.

Slovenia's prime minister, Lojze Peterle, today stressed that the said plebiscite would be a legal foundation for creating a substantive Slovenia, something due to be a process of some length. In case of a positive solution from the plebiscite, Slovenia would dissociate itself from Yugoslavia's legal order and pass its own laws, he announced. Addressing the Gorjup days, a traditional gathering of journalists, Peterle evaluated that the said plebiscite would create conditions for Slovenia's negotiations with other sovereign Yugoslav republics on concluding a new historical agreement and mape possible international recognition of Slovenia's substantiveness.

Slovene Official Calls For Secession

LD2411215690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1226 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Celje, 24 Nov (TANJUG)—The only solution acceptable to Slovenia is its recognition as a sovereign and independent republic. The time is ripe now and no better time will ever come, and those who are now hesitating and postponing making a decision do not understand this historic moment. This was stated at the opening of a program conference of the Social Democratic Party of Slovenia which is held in Celje by party chairman Dr. Joze Pucnik, who is also chairman of Demos [United Opposition].

According to Pucnik, the Slovene Social Democrats support a peaceful but resolute and urgent secession from the current federation, because it is the only way to enable relations to reflect the interests of independent states which belong to the present federation. However, Slovenia can sign a confederal agreement with Croatia only if Slovenia's interests and its sovereignty are not threatened, Dr. Pucnik stressed.

Peterle Cited on Secession

LD2511141490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1229 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Moscow, 25 Nov (TANJUG)—Premier of the Yugoslav Republic of Slovenia Peterle has told the Soviet NOVOSTI press agency that Slovenia "was likely to be forced to secede" if Yugoslavia was not constituted as a confederation.

Peterle said some 80 percent of the Slovene economy was "controlled by the federal leadership", which was why the republic should gradually "depart from" (federal) legislation.

Slovenia is the Yugoslav republic, which coupled with Croatia, insists on Yugoslavia becoming a confederation. The ruling coalition in the Slovene parliament will organize a plebiscite at which citizens will opt either for a confederation or for a Slovenia as an independent state.

The Slovene economy is in a difficult situation and faced virtual bankruptcy. As in the other Yugoslav republics, the blame for the serious situation was to a good measure being ascribed to the federal government and factors from without the republic.

Kosovo's Rugova Expects Elections in March

LD2411044990 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2203 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Pristina, 23 Nov (TANJUG)—The leader of the strongest opposition party of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, a province within the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia, says in an interview to the Zagreb Albanian-Language magazine KOHA (TIME) that elections for the provincial parliament will be held in March next year.

Ibrahim Rugova, president of the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo, says that democratic elections in the province will be possible only if the opposition advocating the abolition of provinces loses in the Serbia . elections.

Rugova does not specify who should organize the March elections. On June 5, Serbia dissolved the Kosovo parliament after it had adopted a declaration proclaiming a Republic of Kosovo. Former MPs then unlawfully passed a Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo and announced elections for November, which have not been held.

The opposition parties of ethnic Albanians have been registered at the federal level only, and not in the Republic of Serbia, owing to which they will be banned from the December 9 elections. Ethnic Albanians can, however, nominate independent candidates.

Rugova maintains that ethnic Albanians should participate in talks on Yugoslavia's future on an equal footing. Stressing that he does not urge a retailoring of Yugoslavia's borders or creation of a greater Albania, Rugova adds that the Kosovo opposition wants the province to be part of Yugoslavia and of Europe at the same time.

Croatian Assembly Discusses Draft Constitution

LD2311120990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0958 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Zagreb, 23 Nov (TANJUG)—Deputies in the Assembly of the Republic of Croatia gathered this morning for a joint session of all three chambers to discuss the proposed draft of the new republican constitution. After today's debate the new constitution will be released for one month's public debate, and will probably be adopted before the end of the year.

In an introductory political address, Assembly President Dr. Zarko Komljan stressed that the draft constitution follows the positive Croatian state and legal tradition, draws on European and North American achievements in constitutional and legal thinking, and is drafted according to the needs of the ordinary man, and as such could have lasting value. It is a charter, a secular bible, embellished by its brevity (only 145 articles and 17 times shorter than the constitution of the Socialist Republic of Croatia of 1974), its precision, and comprehensiveness.

Republic Day 'Confusion' Discussed

LD2311135990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1000 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Zagreb, 23 Nov (TANJUG)—Ivica Percan, vice president of the Croatian Assembly, during the process of drawing up the agenda for the assembly session this morning, called for an examination of the decision of the Croatian government to make 29 November a working day. Replying to the comment, Prime Minister Josip Manolic said that no such decision exists, rather there is a recommendation to citizens that everyone has the right to celebrate Republic Day as he wishes, but as a working day.

According to the debate which ensued, the blame for the confusion which arose from the government recommendation was placed on journalists who interpreted this as a decision.

The assembly voted not to accept the proposal that a debate on Republic Day should be put on the agenda of today's session.

Voting Repeated in 22 Bosnian Communes 25 Nov

AU2511213490 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2100 GMT 25 Nov 90

[Text] Voting was repeated today in 22 Bosnia-Hercegovina communes where there had been irregularities in the electoral procedure last Sunday [18 November]. The republican Electoral Commission decided that voting be repeated in 113 polling stations in 29 communes. However, since voters lists have not yet been drawn up in seven communes, the voting will be repeated in these places next week.

The revote has involved about 80,000 voters but the results of the voting will have no influence on last week's results. [sentence as heard]

Polling stations closed at 1900 [1800 GMT] and the votes will be counted tomorrow.

Further on 1st Round Results in Bosnia-Herzegovina

LD2411001690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1333 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Sarajevo, 23 Nov (TANJUG)—The final results of Bosnia-Hercegovina's multiparty elections will be known after 25 November when the voting will be repeated at the 103 polling stations where irregularities were spotted. Today's preliminary official results do not change in the least the picture outlined by the first count of ballots. Out of 2,997,661 voters, it was said at today's news conference of the republican Electoral Commission, 2,279,712, or 76.05 percent, cast their vote and 123,816 ballots were registered as invalid.

The national parties have won a resounding victory over the parties of the so-called left-wing block on all the lists.

The future Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina will consist of Fikret Abdic, 1,010,618 votes; and Alija Izetbegovic, 847,386; both candidates of the party of Democratic Action [Stranka Demokratske Akcije] from the ranks of Muslims. This party will also have another member in the Presidency, Ejup Ganic, who was nominated in the elections as a Yugoslav, thus he will represent the other nations and nationalities in this republic with 680,733 votes.

Biljana Plavsic, 557,218 votes, and Nikola koljevic, 541,212 will join the Presidency as candidates of the Serbian Democratic Party [Srpska Demokratska Stranka] from the ranks of Serbs. Stjepan Kljuic, 464,174 votes, and Franjo Boras, 408,750, will join the new Presidency as candidates of the Croatian Democratic Community [Hrvatska Demokratska Zajednica] from the ranks of the Croats. The rerun elections on Sunday [25 November] cover only two percent of the electorate so this will hardly change the current proportions. [passage omitted]

Communists React to Election Defeat

LD2411044190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1131 GMT 23 Nov 90

[Text] Sarajevo, 23 Nov (TANJUG)—We have not given up, nor have we succumbed to either disappointment or despair. This is not the end of the Bosnia-Hercegovina League of Communists - Socialist Democratic Party (SKBih-SDP), but its new beginning, Nijaz Durakovic said at a news conference in the headquarters of the SKBih-SDP, at which the first assessments of the election defeat were given.

Lessons have been learned from the defeat for ideological, political, and organizational reorganization and the creation of a new, modern political party, on which the Central Committee will adopt stances next month, prior to the congress [word indistinct] which will most likely take place in January next year.

In a situation where a firm connection has been made between religion, nation, and political party, the left-wing did not have a chance in such conditions, Durakovic stressed, with the reminder that his party accepts the wishes of the electorate, as the sovereign choice of those who voted. The elections were multiparty, but there is no way of proving that they were free, when there was intimidation, threats, blackmail and pressures on the conscience and freedom of voters. It has been shown that national affiliation is more important than programs, and that national homogenization is a reality. We believe that nationalist passions will pass, while the programs and ideas of left [words indistinct] (?in the near) future will strengthen. [passage indistinct]

Commenting on stories that he would resign today, Nijaz Durakovic said that these were only rumors which he was giving no thought to and did not wish to discuss.

Bosnia's Piljak Says Nationwide Referendum Futile

LD2411192290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1558 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Sarajevo, 24 Nov (TANJUG)—President of Bosnia-Hercegovina Obrad Piljak said here today that the constitutional crisis in Yugoslavia should be resolved by the parliaments of all republics opting for a modality of future life together.

A full stop should be put on futile debates on Yugoslavia's future, said Piljak, adding that it is pointless to hold [word indistinct] nationwide referendum on that issue, as proposed by the country's state Presidency.

The concepts of a unitarianist federation and another one of a confederation virtually unheard of in the world are so opposed to one another that a compromise is not possible, Piljak said.

Croatia and Slovenia urge a confederation of independent Yugoslav states, while Serbia is the staunchest advocator of the country's federal structure.

Piljak spoke at the republican Presidency session called to mark November 25, the Republic's national holiday. The session was attended by top republican officials and representatives of political parties active in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Interior Minister Says Federation Only Solution

LD2411220190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2006 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Svetozarevo, 24 Nov (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Interior Minister Petar Gracanin said today that Yugoslavia should be organized as a federation with a socialist social system.

Addressing a meeting of reserve army officer veterans in Svetozarevo, a town in the Republic of Serbia, Gracanin said that any other option was fraught with grave dangers for the stability and peace in the country.

He accused "the extremist forces" of denying all that had been achieved in the country's post-war development, and of "attempting to degrade the very idea of socialism."

The current tension in the country has resulted in "extensive investigation by the foreign factor trying to influence the social trends in Yugoslavia," said Gracanin.

Gracanin said the major danger for the country's security were the conditions in the Province of Kosovo (a part of the Republic of Serbia), where Albanian chauvinists and separatists are working towards its secession from Serbia.

He described the speculations on secession from Yugoslavia in some republics as having particularly negative

effects on the conditions in the country. It is high time for all progressive forces advocating prosperity and democratic relations betwen people to unite, he said.

Gracanin was formerly chief of staff of the Yugoslav People's Army. His name is also connected with the founding of the League of Communists - Movement for Yugoslavia, a party which was also joined by the League of Communists Organization in the Army.

The party, which was promoted a few days ago, urges the preservation of Yugoslavia and socialism.

Government Proposes Law on Federation Budget

LD2211194490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1724 GMT 22 Nov 90

[Text] Belgrade, November 22 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Government of Prime Minister Ante Markovic today proposed to Federal Parliament a draft law on the federation budget for the year 1991, which essentially aims at securing full control of and financial discipline in using funds from the federal treasury.

The law will determine the rights, obligations and responsibilities of all those who will use the budget funds next year, proposed at 154.7 billion dinars (1 U.S. dollar = 10.326 dinars).

The draft law on establishing the 1991 budget was sent to the Federal Assembly on Monday.

The funds for covering federal expenditures will be provided from the earnings of the federation (125.3 billion dinars), contributions from the six Yugoslav republics and two provinces to the amount of 12.4 billion, and federation bonds worth 17 billion dinars.

The financing of the Yugoslav Peoples Army will account for 4.60 percent of the estimated national income, or 64.8 billion dinars. The economy will require about 41 billion dinars, including subsidies and premiums for agriculture, foreign trade and other needs.

The budget was planned on the basis of a Yugoslav domestic product of 1,483.8 billion dinars, or one 29 percent higher than this year's. Furthermore, the federal government also plans salaries to increase by seven percent, pensions by 13.7 percent, prices to go up 32.4 percent, and that the rate of exchange of the national currency for the dollar will be one dollar = 11.5 dinars.

Belgrade Daily: Austria Fanning 'War Psychosis'

LD2411131690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1228 GMT 24 Nov 90

[Text] Belgrade, 24 Nov (TANJUG)—"Austria is fanning a war psychosis in Yugoslavia," the Belgrade daily VECERENJE NOVOSTI writes today in connection with the Austrian military exercises held on the border with Yugoslavia.

The purpose of the exercises which began two days ago near the town of Obertang in Styria, is "to train catching Yugoslavs," as an Austrian Army officer has stated.

VECERENJE NOVOSTI writes that what is involved are "the Austro-Hungarian type of exercises aimed at intimidating the southerners, just as in the best days of the Habsburg monarchy."

"The decision to stage the exercises in manhunt only a day after the conclusion of the Paris CSCE summit, at which military confrontation and superpower rivalry were left behind, is a sign of the emergence of some new European policemen," the Belgrade daily writes.

[Word indistinct] the assessments made in Vienna that, in case of a war in Yugoslavia, "thousands of refugees, followed by troops, will rush" across the border, VECERENJE NOVOSTI sets out that a scenario according to which "a war will break out in Yugoslavia tomorrow" is being served to the Austrian public.

The Belgrade daily recalls that the military exercises and assessments in Austria run counter to Austrian Chancellor Vranitzky's recent statements that "it must absolutely not be permitted that an impression be created in Yugoslavia that Austria is interfering in its internal affairs" and that Austria will "do everything to be a stable and reliable neighbour of Yugoslavia."

Loncar Discusses Iraqi Hostages With EC Envoys

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[Text] Belgrade, 23 Nov (TANJUG)—Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs, today received the ambassadors of the EC countries accredited in the SFRY, who, in accordance with orders from their governments, have asked Yugoslavia, as president of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM], to discuss with the Iraqi Government the freeing of all hostages.

Budimir Loncar offered assurances that the movement and the SFRY, which has obtained a mandate from all members of NAM, is trying to exert its influence for a peaceful resolution of the Persian Gulf crisis on a basis of respect for the UN Security Council resolutions. The issue of the hostages held in Iraq is a special problem and is of special seriousness because it impinges on the role of human rights and freedoms as the basis of new relations in the world.

The federal secretary briefed the EC ambassadors on Yugoslav views on the chances of a resolution in the gulf as regards the recent visits by a number of countries to the region.